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VOTES FOR WOMEN

EDITED BY FREDERICK AND EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE

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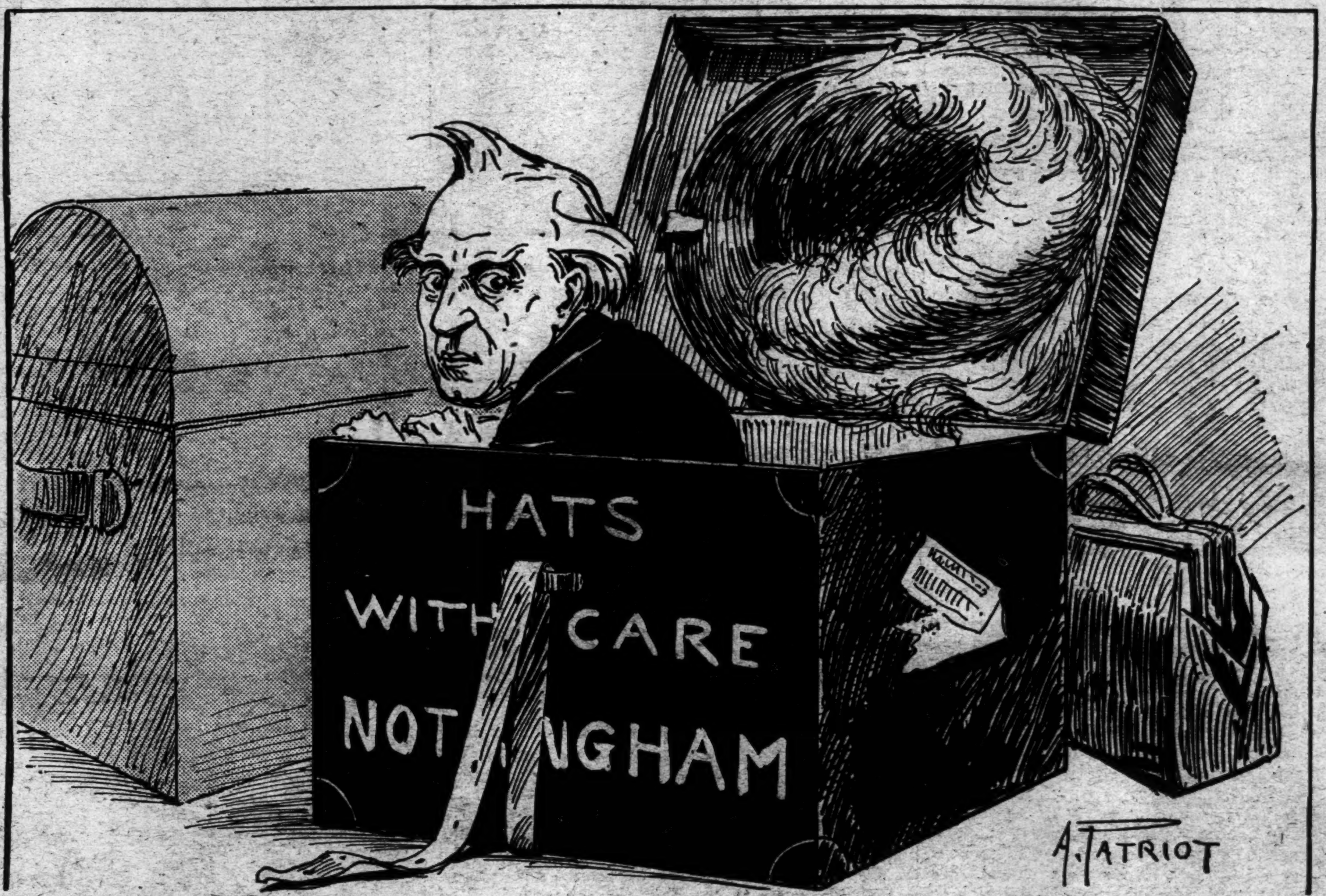
A CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR CABINET MINISTERS



(Suggested by the Prime Minister's recent visit to Nottingham)

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To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom: to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it: to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

THE OUTLOOK

George Lansbury has been defeated in the Bow and Bromley election by 751 votes. Paradoxical as it may seem, this result provides the final and absolute proof of the necessity for his action.

Fought the Party System

Mr. Lansbury resigned his seat as a protest against the domination of party over principle. He declared his intention, if returned to the House of Commons, of standing alone to fight for the things which he considered material to the welfare of his constituents, whatever view the Labour Party or the Liberal Party might take of the situation. This being so, he has had against him in the election the whole of the party forces. Official Liberalism and official Labourism have urged upon their adherents to abstain from voting, and so to let the Tory in.

Party Loyalty

Had Lansbury been successful it would have proved that the powers of party were not so very great after all, that, so far as the mass of the people were concerned, Liberalism meant liberty, and Labourism meant the interests of labour. His defeat proves that they mean nothing of the kind. It proves that Liberalism simply means loyalty to a machine dominated by certain august persons in high places, and that Labourism means loyalty to another machine, to Ramsay Macdonald and his junta. It proves that the evil is deeper and more widespread even than many of us had supposed.

The Indolence of the People

At the back of it all is indolence. The men and women of to-day are too lazy and too careless to think for themselves. They choose, or have chosen for them, at some time of their lives, a leader and a party colour. Thereafter, whatever that leader says is wisdom; whatever is done in the name of the party colour is supremely right. Implicit obedience is loyalty. To doubt or to question is to be guilty of treason. It is not upon such traditions that the liberties of a free people have been built up, and unless those traditions be rooted out of the hearts of our countrymen and countrywomen the decay of this nation can only be a question of time.

Treachery!

Consider the case of George Lansbury. Here was a man fighting for the same things in 1912 as he fought for in 1910, except that he fought still more earnestly in this election than in the one two years ago. His fight for the poor and the oppressed was the same fight that he made then, but he had added to it the experience gained by two years in the House of Commons. His fight for Woman Suffrage was the same fight that he made before, except that he understood the absolute necessity of the reform still more deeply than on that occasion. The only thing that was different was his refusal to give implicit obedience to the party whip and his determination to use his vote in the House of Commons as a weapon with which to strike the Liberal Government when it failed to carry out its principles of Liberalism. For this the Liberal and Labour electors of Bow and Bromley have turned upon him and ejected him, and have allowed a man who shares none of their professed convictions to be elected in his place.

Women Too!

We wish we could acquit women of being accessories to this act of party obsequiousness, but we cannot do so. Shortly before the election, the Committee of the Women's Liberal Federation met and passed a resolution regretting their inability to give their support to George Lansbury. They based their resolution on the fact that he was not a loyal supporter of the Government, and that the question of Woman Suffrage, on which he was principally fighting, was not of sufficient importance to justify his action! Why did they not say at once that they were bound hand and foot to the party machine, that husbands and brothers and sons depended for their promotion upon the implicit “loyalty” of wife and sister and mother, and that before this precious "loyalty" of theirs the flag of freedom and of honour must be trampled in the dust!

The Doom of the Party System

But let there be no mistake. This triumph of the party machine spells no disgrace for Lansbury; on the contrary, it spells his eternal honour. His name from this hour becomes world-wide as a champion of freedom. The causes for which he has stood at this election are the causes which the future will see brought to fruition. It is the party machine which has been degraded by this election, and it is the party system which by it has been doomed to extinction.

Liberalism at Nottingham

The National Liberal Federation meeting at Nottingham provided a strange commentary on the Liberalism of the Liberal Party. One of the resolutions before the Conference related to the Government's Franchise Bill. A well-known Anti-Suffragist, Mr. John Massie, was to propose the resolution. He did so in a provocative speech which called forth a comment from a woman in the gallery. Sir John Brunner, who was in the chair, said, "I would ask you to be a sweet woman." This silly utterance drew from her another remark, and at once the audience was in an uproar and the woman was carried shoulder high out of the meeting. Sir John Brunner then repeated his remark about "sweet women," at which Lady Bamford Slack and Mrs. Broadley Reid, two prominent Liberal women who were on the platform, left the meeting in disgust.

Woman Suffrage and the Franchise Bill

After Mr. Massie had sat down Mr. Richardson, a Suffragist, rose to second the resolution. He was proceeding to refer to the necessity of including women in the Franchise Bill when he was called to order by Sir John Brunner, who refused to allow him to proceed with his speech, and called on the next speaker. We are glad to see that this high handed ruling has received the castigation of the *Manchester Guardian*, but the fact that it should be seriously suggested that a speech on Woman Suffrage is irrelevant to a resolution in support of the Government's Franchise Bill proves how much sincerity there is in the idea that this Bill provides a "grand opportunity" for the enfranchisement of women.

The Prime Minister "En Voyage"

The Prime Minister, closely guarded by detectives and police, and employing every form of strategy open to a frock-coated Minister of the realm in this unromantic age, contrived to reach Nottingham in safety, and to deliver a whole speech to the assembled delegates without being once reminded of his duty towards the women of the country. The Liberal party organs showered congratulations upon all those concerned in pulling off this successful *coup;* they do not seem to have suspected, as we do, that the militant Suffrage forces thought it more important just then to concentrate on helping a friend in Bow and Bromley than on hindering an enemy at Nottingham. Mr. Asquith, having passed the night in a barricaded private house, protected by police, barbed wire, and tarpaulins, took a circuitous route back to town, and is said to have proceeded to Windsor Castle for the week-end. We do not know if he travelled there via Edinburgh or Paris, to throw his pursuers off the scent; but we think he must have felt pleasantly safe for once when he found himself at last in a real castle surrounded by a moat and guarded by soldiers in red coats instead of constables in plain clothes!

A Miscarriage of Justice

We reported last week briefly the dismissal of the case at Llanystumdwy of the man charged with assaulting a Suffragist at Mr. Lloyd George's meeting. This week we are able to give full details of the trial. We are not surprised that it is difficult for women to retain any belief in the impartiality of British justice. Over and over again women have been convicted in London police courts and elsewhere on the evidence of two policemen against the overwhelming testimony of civilians. On the present occasion, when a disgraceful and brutal attack upon a woman is in question, the evidence of the woman herself and four policemen is ignored in favour of the evidence of the accused. Women naturally draw their own conclusions.

Hunger Striker Released

We are glad to see that Miss Isabel Irving, sentenced to six months' imprisonment for window-breaking last week, has been released on adopting the hunger strike. Such a result shows that against women borne up by the consciousness of the justice of their cause the Government have no real remedy. There is only one thing to be done; that is, to concede at last that which ought to have been given long ago, as an act of simple justice, the Parliamentary vote.

Do Women Want the Vote?

When Sir Randal Cremer was alive he used to try and prove that women did not want the vote by the simple process of deducting the two million women, who at one time or another had signed petitions in favour of the Suffrage, from the total of thirteen million women of the British Isles, thus triumphantly showing a majority of eleven to two against the proposal. Such reasoning, it is needless to point out, would have proved fatal to almost every reform which has ever been carried. The only reliable means of ascertaining the opinions of the women of the country at the present time is to take the view expressed by the organised bodies of women. One of the most important of these bodies, the National Union of Women Workers, has just carried a strong resolution declaring that "without the firm foundation of the Parliamentary franchise for women there is no permanence for any advance gained by them," and urging M.P.'s to see that women are given votes under the Franchise Bill. This resolution was carried by the overwhelming majority of 199 to 59, and even among the minority were many who, though Suffragists, voted against the resolution because they considered the N.U.W.W. ought to refrain from expressing any opinion on this subject. Moreover, this body does not stand alone, for during the last few years every organised body of women of any importance has carried a resolution in favour of Votes for Women.

The L.C.C. Does Its Duty

Last Tuesday, after a debate that extended over two meetings, the London County Council, by 54 votes to 48, passed the following addition to the recommendations of its Parliamentary Committee with regard to the protection of the Council's interests in the proposed Franchise Bill:—

> Women (including married women) should be entitled to exercise the franchise at Local Government elections on the same conditions as men.

The effect of this recommendation would be to give to all women, married or single, the municipal vote on equal terms with men. It is noticeable that Lady St. Helier voted against the motion, thus robbing the Anti-Suffrage platform, on which she stands, of its one and only plank worth mentioning. But then, the old lady who by accident was placed on the poll at Bow, used her vote last Tuesday in order to show that she did not want to have one! Really, it is impossible to follow the ramifications of the "Anti" mind.

Why Women are Militant

Only a week ago two women were sentenced, one to six months', one to four months' imprisonment, for breaking windows as a political protest against the disfranchisement of their sex. A few days before, at the Essex Assizes, a man who was indicted of a serious offence against a girl of fifteen, was acquitted because he said on oath that he thought she was over sixteen. How can any thinking man or woman fail to see the connection between these two instances, or to understand why women, stirred to the depths by these unpunished, or at best lightly-punished, assaults upon children, feel impelled to be militant? In no other way will women win the power to raise the age of consent and ensure the protection of our young girls, and in no other way will the public sense of the relative values of property and human life ever be readjusted.

THE "VOTES FOR WOMEN" FELLOWSHIP

By Mrs. Pethick Lawrence

The question of Votes for Women was never such a living issue in our country or in the world at large as it is to-day. Never were men and women so interested and so eager to understand as they are now. The challenge of Mr. Lansbury, the resignation of his seat in the House of Commons on the supreme issue of the political emancipation of women, and his appeal to the people of Bow and Bromley have focussed the attention of the whole country upon the subject. The honesty of his convictions, the sincerity of his action has been, as it were, a search-light shedding the illumination of truth upon the pretence of politicians. His great sacrifice has aroused respect and enthusiasm as sacrifice for principle always does. To thousands of men and women hitherto unawakened to the urgency of this reform the stand that Mr. Lansbury has made has brought a revelation. That this question means so much to one man, convinces them that there is more in it than they have ever yet understood.

Now is the time to enlighten them further. Now is the time to get our Paper, Votes for Women, week by week into their hands. And this task must be undertaken without delay by all the members of the Votes for Women Fellowship.

Again, the discussion in the Press and in the House of Commons upon the White Slave Traffic, the dissemination of knowledge concerning the facts of that hideous trade, the light thrown upon kindred evils, the revelation of the scandalous exploitation of women in the labour market, of their under-payment and of their desperate poverty, have aroused men and women who do not as a rule take any interest in politics to indignation and compassion. They are begining to see that no adequate protection can be given to women except the power to protect themselves, the power to express their point of view and to exercise the pressure of their will by means of the vote upon the law makers and law administrators of the country.

Further, a new inspiration and impulse has been given by the rapid victory of Votes for Women in State after State of the American Republic, especially by the news, three weeks ago, that four new States have just given full political rights to women, and by the story of the wonderful social developments taking place in the States of Washington and California, where women have lately entered into their heritage of citizenship.

We of the Votes for Women Fellowship must take advantage of this flood-tide of new curiosity, interest, and enthusiasm. And we will.

What thousands of people are wanting at the present time is enlightenment and instruction. Some are ignorant about facts that are as well-known to Suffragists as their alphabet. Some have never heard the arguments for Woman Suffrage, which seem to us so simple and self-apparent. Some have never thought of making any logical connection between facts as they are and the causes that produce them. Some know nothing about the long history of our agitation. On all these points, and many others, these newly-stirred, vaguely-interested people must be informed by means of our Paper.

Within the covers of the Paper, and by the voluntary organisation of the Fellowship outside in the world, we must spread our net further and wider, and bring more and more new readers and new helpers in. While week by week we keep abreast of the latest phase and development of the political situation, we always remember those who have not yet "caught up" to the political standpoint, those who want to understand the simple connection between Votes for Women and a cleaner, better, and happier world. By exposition, by story, and by illustration, we make our appeal to the heart and the conscience as well as to the understanding of the average man and woman.

Our hope and our ambition is to get Votes for Women to the people, and the people to Votes for Women, to have our Poster exhibited in every town and village, and our Paper read by men and women throughout the length and breadth of the country; and further, to turn every reader of the Paper into a blend of missionary and advertising agent!

It is pleasant to think that members and friends of the Votes for Women Fellowship have given such splendid help during the celebrated Suffrage election at Bow and Bromley. Each helper seems to have been filled with one idea only, namely, to do her utmost to make the result of the election victorious. The spirit of kindliness and helpfulness in deeds and in words is pleasant to remember. The Paper had a splendid sale, and no doubt good seed has been sown by the excellent contents of the two weekly issues circulated in the district.

It is from hand to hand that the torch of a new idea must be passed. It is by the constant influx of freshly awakened minds, and by the newly quickened enthusiasm and energy of the "convert" that movements grow, while the stability of movements is secured by the educated conviction and well-tested faith and the life-long loyalty of its adherents.

To all our readers I make an appeal. Send in your names, those of you who will help to spread the message of Votes for Women throughout the length and breadth of the land. Enrol yourself in the Votes for Women Fellowship. By one or all of the methods that have been enumerated and that will be indicated week by week in these columns, do your part in arresting the attention of the Public.

We want a largely increased band of women prepared to give some time every week to selling the Paper in the streets or outside Suffrage meetings. We want Posters to be shown at all the principal stations and newsagents. We want subscriptions towards sending the Paper from time to time to the members of the House of Commons.

By doing your part in building up the influence and increasing the circulation of the Paper, you are preparing the ground for the liberation of women, and opening the way for the great extension of social reform which will come with the entrance of women into fellowship with men in the sphere of national citizenship.

FELLOWSHIP FUND SUBSCRIPTIONS

(November 20th-26th.)

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	80	5	9
Miss Florence Wright	5	0	0
Miss Cicily Wroughton	0	10	0
Extra on Votes for Women, per Miss D. Pethick	0	1	11
Lady Constance Lytton	0	10	0
Mrs Sacre...............	1	5	0
Miss G. W. Dart ...	0	5	0
Percy A. Hawkins, Esq.	0	1	0
H. Hersey, Esq.	0	1	0
Miss E. F. Haarbleicher	0	2	6
Miss R. M. Davies...	0	2	0
Miss Elizabeth Thompson	0	10	0
Miss E. B. Worters	0	10	0
Miss A. Hulme	1	1	0
Mrs. Hunt.............	0	5	0
Miss Pethick	2	0	0
Mrs. Murphy	1	5	0
Miss Alice Farmer...	0	5	0
Miss C. MacLeod ...	0	3	0
Total...............	94	3	2

THE REFORMER IN THE HOME

By Evelyn Sharp

“An excellent idea!” said the Major, laying down the morning paper from which he had just read an extract aloud to the breakfast table. “Capable of infinite extension, even within the home itself——”

“Oh, how?” asked Binks eagerly. “There aren't any girls in this family—at least, only the Rat, and she doesn't count——”

“All right,” said the Rat, calmly. “I wasn't a bit anxious to do your algebra for you. That settles it.”

“Do tell us, father,” persisted Binks. “How can Ratty be a class of elementary schoolgirls, and learn all about what's-its-name—I mean mothercraft? And——”

“What is mothercraft, anyway?” interjected Chip. “If it's anything to do with manners and nice language, the Rat won't make much of a show.”

“All right,” said the Rat again. “Next time you get stuck over your Latin verse——”

“Dear family,” begged the new step-mother, “need we begin the day with all the familiar rivalries?”

Her husband wore a triumphant air. “Just as I predicted!” he remarked. “Your plan, my dear, of educating Ratty—I should say, Eleanora—with her brothers, has resulted, as I said it would, in a distressing spirit of sex rivalry. As I always tell you, boys are boys, and girls are——”

“I should hope so!” said the family fervently.

“And now, because Eleanora is quicker at her lessons than her brothers are——”

“Swots more!” interjected Chip, purely from a desire to be explanatory.

“Because she can do some things better than they can,” pursued the Major under difficulties, “all her gentler, more womanly qualities are being——”

“*I* see!” said his wife, also from a kindly desire to be helpful. “The way to train a girl to be womanly is to keep her from finding out that she can do things better than her brothers?”

“Your mother likes her joke,” the Major informed the breakfast table indulgently. Then he turned again to the Rat. “Speaking seriously, Eleanora, I should like to arrange for you to have some instruction in—in the hygiene of the nursery, and—and the management of young children, and so on, and so on. Perhaps, dearest”—this to his wife—“one of these classes might be arranged in—in my house, once a week, so as to provide the necessary material for Eleanora, and—and so on.”

“Being married fresh has given father a lovely lot of new ideas for games, hasn't it, Steppy darling?” murmured the Rat, laying the sparse coiffure, from which her nickname was derived, affectionately against the new step-mother's shoulder.

“If by ‘necessary material’ you mean other people's babies, I won't have measles brought into *my* house for anybody!” was what the Major's wife said.

“Really!” trumpeted the Major. “Really! Women have the most unofficial minds——”

“Of course we have, dearest,” smiled his wife. “It's because we're not paid officially. How can you expect us to feel official about being wives and mothers when we don't get a salary for being wives and——”

“'Pon my word!” said the Major. “To talk like that of women's greatest service to the State——”

“Men would have unofficial minds, too,” pursued his wife unabashed, “if they were expected to perform their greatest service to the State—I mean, living in barracks and waiting for the invasion that never comes—without being paid for it.”

The Major again smiled indulgently. Being married fresh had taught him a good many things about women, among others the fact that they had a sense of humour—not always a nice, tactful, and well-controlled sense of humour, but still, something that had to be reckoned with when he wanted his own way about anything. He tried to reckon with it now. “I am not proposing a game, Ratty,” he explained with extreme patience. “My idea is to teach you to fit yourself while you are still young for the larger life that awaits you when you leave my home for another.” He paused to give effect to this utterance, the eloquence of which even surprised himself; then went on in more human tones—“Now, I'm sure you'll like learning all about little babies, and—and so on. Won't you?”

The Rat looked dubious. “Babies are all right,” she admitted. “But I'd like to know what you mean by the ‘so on.’”

The Major went out of the room, a little uncertain as to whether he had got his own way or not.

“Steppy, darling,” said the Rat, when he had gone, “when father told you to marry him—I mean, asked you—did he say it would fit you for the larger life that awaited you when you changed your father's home for his? And is it really larger?”

The best of the step-mother was that she never made jokes in the wrong place, like some grown-up people. When you asked her for information, she always gave it you.

“No, he didn't, Rat dear,” she answered. “I think he asked me if I should like to; and then he said he would like to, if I should; and then he told me about all of you, so I said I thought I should.”

“May it be treacle pudding to-day, Steppy, love?” asked Binks, hastening to coin this praiseworthy show of affection on the part of the new step-mother.

Now, the new step-mother had also married the Major for another reason—because she loved him. She had not left her father's home for his; she had left her own home, her own charming little student's home that she had built up for herself in ten years of hard, solid work—she was a teacher of history, and still gave lectures—so she must have loved him very much. And she did. She was the only person in the world who knew that the Major did not remotely resemble the man he thought he wanted to be. She had discovered long ago that he did not believe one of his own funny theories about women, and men, and their separate services to the State; they had all been put into his head by the people he had always lived among, and, being kind and polite, he had never liked to disagree with them. Of course, if he had really believed his own theories, he would not have wanted to marry her—or she him. Still, the fact remained that he thought he believed them; and sometimes she wondered if she would ever succeed in making him see that he didn't. For it is one thing to discover the real man in a Major, and quite another to make the Major discover him too.

A few days later—it was the first half-holiday after the conversation at the breakfast table—the Major, passing along the hall, was arrested by uproarious sounds from the schoolroom. An amazing, not to say embarrassing, scene met his eyes when he opened the door. On the rug in front of the fire was a bath. Beside it sprawled a small and completely shameless pink and white baby, crowing lustily as only a pink and white baby can crow when it is totally untrammelled by the garments of civilisation. Alongside of the baby squatted the Major's two sons, dangling their watches at him and otherwise ministering to his intellectual needs until the crowing swelled into a roar of hysterical hilarity. At the writing-table, meanwhile, sat Eleanora, wrestling with quadratic equations.

“Bless my soul!” ejaculated the Major. “Bless my soul!”

The Rat looked over her shoulder at him and smiled reassuringly. “It's all right, father; the boys are studying fathercraft while I do their algebra for them,” she explained. As her explanation did not seem to make any appreciable effect upon his bewildered embarrassment, she came across the room and slipped her arm through his. The Rat was the only one of the three children who suspected the existence of the real man in the Major. “You see, daddy,” she went on, “we thought it would be rather fun to play your new game of mothercraft; so we borrowed Mrs. Williams's baby—she's here to-day, sewing for mother—and, of course, the boys wanted to play, too; and I thought they might as well, as they're just as likely to be fathers some day as I am to be a mother; so Binks got the bath ready, and Chip and I washed the baby, and then, the baby liked them so much better than me, that I thought I'd better do their algebra while they minded the baby, and it's working splendidly, isn't it?”

The new step-mother bubbled over with merriment when the Major implored her to go to the schoolroom and put a stop to what was going on.

“You darling!” she said, which, though distinctly irrelevant, was disarming. “Why should you mind their doing what you said you wanted them to do?”

“I never said I wanted any son of mine to waste his time in that effeminate manner!” fumed the Major.

“Dear love,” remonstrated his wife, “in the intervals of combating invasions, surely it is not considered effeminate for a man to be a father in his own home? And if Chip and Binks have got to be fathers some day——”

“Some day?” stormed the Major. “Some day? What has that got to do with their anticipating the fact to-day? Never heard such nonsense! I'm not sure it isn't a little—a little improper as well! Boys at that age ought to be playing cricket—learning Greek and Latin——”

He paused, for grey eyes that galloped with amusement met his, and the Major knew he had given himself away, hopelessly and irrevocably.

“Well, well,” said the real man that the step-mother had discovered long ago in the Major, “perhaps you're right, and a youngster is a youngster, whether it's a boy or a girl.”

“You darling!” was all the new step-mother said.

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THE BY-ELECTION AT BOW AND BROMLEY

Polling took place at Bow and Bromley last Tuesday, and the result was announced as follows from the Bromley Public Hall shortly before ten o'clock:—

Mr. Reginald Blair	4,042
Mr. George Lansbury	3,291
Majority	751

MESSAGE FROM MR. GEORGE LANSBURY

In the following words, Mr. George Lansbury expresses to readers of Votes for Women his own feelings and those of his wife with regard to the result of the contest:—

Friends,—My wife joins me in saying we thank most sincerely all those men, women, and children who toiled so hard on behalf of the Cause we represented yesterday.

We have been beaten by a combination of false friends and open foes. Men who profess to believe in the principles of democracy have openly and unashamed ranged themselves on the side of Toryism and reaction. That is their business and their disgrace. If they are satisfied with the result of their efforts, we do not complain; but you, who, in spite of slander and lies, stood to your principles, have nothing either to be ashamed of or to regret.

In spite of everything, 3,291 men went to the poll and declared that womanhood and motherhood were sacred, and joined in declaring for the emancipation of women from White Slavery, sweating, and all that makes life black and miserable. For the moment we have been repulsed, but the darkest night often precedes the most glorious dawn, and we can comfort ourselves with the knowledge that Socrates, Savonarola, and Luther all suffered persecution and defeat. And, last of all, that the very greatest of all the world's prophets and teachers, Christ Himself, went down to the last depths of defeat and ignominy, and those who are in the great human movement of our day, especially the women, are fighting through a similar trial.

My wife and I are proud and happy in ever so small a way to have been in the fight with them. There is no suffering on our side. It is a glory to have been a part of this great movement that women themselves are making for their own freedom, and we beg every poor woman and every poor man who cares for the future of womanhood to rally to the Cause of women's emancipation as the first step towards the complete freedom of the human race.

HOW THE RESULT WAS RECEIVED

In spite of the rain, dense crowds assembled in front of the Bromley Public Hall more than an hour before the result could possibly be declared. It was so largely composed of workers, both men and women, that it is not, perhaps, surprising that when the news came of Mr. Lansbury's defeat, the prevailing feeling was first one of incredulity, and afterwards that of dumb disappointment. Comments in the daily Press testify to this rather unusual reception of an election result, though it would not surprise anyone who has been working in the constituency during the last ten days, and seen the firm hold that the defeated candidate has upon the trust and the affection of the hard-working and the poorer section of the people there. The crowd then broke up, part of it attracted towards Mr. Blair's central committee rooms, opposite, where a firework display was being used to whip up the enthusiasm of the onlookers, but the greater portion of it making its way round the corner to the Obelisk, where George Lansbury, who was received with long and continued cheers, addressed them as well as he was able in a voice that he had worn out in their service during the campaign that had just come to an end.

His Speech

He told them he had come out to fight an issue that was rather new in English politics; and had come out and defied not merely Liberals and Tories, but the political Labour Party—(cheers)—that party which had used all the influence it could to confuse the issue. Now Mr. Blair had won this seat by 700 votes. That meant that a large number of Liberals—Liberals, let them remember—preferred a Tory to a Labour man and Socialism. He wanted to say quite deliberately that rather than sit in Parliament at the mercy of the Liberals he would prefer to be outside. (Cheers.) He should go home that night remembering that better men than he, and better women, had had to endure much more than he had had to endure in merely losing a seat in the House of Commons. After that night he would rise up refreshed and strengthened, not merely to earn his own living, but also to do what one man could to inspire people to revolt against their abominable conditions. And no one, standing in that crowd of working-people, could help feeling that some failures are bigger things than some successes.

"I am Very Proud Indeed"

To one Press representative Mr. Lansbury is reported to have said, after the declaration of the poll: "I am very proud indeed to have polled 3,291 votes on the fair and square issue of 'Votes for all Men and Votes for all Women.' The Liberals have now done what they wanted to do. They have voted for a Tory and sent a message to Mr. Asquith for which I hope he will be duly grateful. I had to fight against the open hostility of the Liberal Party, and also the undisguised opposition of the official Labour Party. I would rather be out of Parliament than in Parliament at the mercy of the Liberals in this division."

And to another he stated that there had not been time to explain the issue and clear up the misconceptions that had been circulated in the constituency with regard to Votes for Women. It would indeed take longer than ten days in any constituency to catch up with terminological inexactitudes about a cause like that of women's enfranchisement!

THE CAMPAIGN DURING THE WEEK

Up to the last moment on Monday night, the campaign was carried on with untiring energy and good humour. There is no doubt that if the women had been voters, George Lansbury would be member for Bow and Bromley to-day. They came to every meeting that was held in support of his candidature by the Suffragists. They came with babies in their arms; they came straight from work, in their work-a-day clothes; on Saturday afternoon, during the great mass meeting in the Bow Baths, a continual stream of them went in and out at the back of the hall, as the hawkers from the stalls in the market outside relieved one another at their work in order that each might have a chance of hearing the speeches about Votes for Women from the candidate and his supporters.

"I am so glad you can manage to get here on a Saturday afternoon," said one of the women stewards to an elector's wife in the audience. She smiled as she hugged her small bundle of a baby. "Had to get up two hours earlier this morning to get my work done," she explained. And she was not the only one!

A Fairy Interlude

(From a Spectator.)

If you happen to be a little girl and to be born in one of the mean streets that lie behind the brilliantly lighted thoroughfares of Bow and Bromley, the time out of school, when you ought to be playing, is a time of great and serious import, for you so soon begin to be old enough to take your share in mothering the little ones of the family—when you are born a little girl, and not a little boy. It is only necessary for you to be sufficiently tall and strong to hug a tiny bundle, not much bigger than an ordinary doll, without letting it drop, and you at once begin to take your part in the serious business of life.

And Saturday night is of more than ordinary importance, so that you have to reply very firmly to Suffragettes who invite you to "come and hear fairy stories and recitations," and to tell them solemnly that, much as you would like to come, you have to "go home and help mother bath the children."

And how worldly wise you are at that age! You speak with infinite scorn of the bigger girls (who don't look more than children themselves, but who are probably well over school age and already wage-earners) who refuse the invitation on other grounds, namely, that they have "something better to do with their time." "Blokes is all they care about," you remark, with the wisdom of all the ages in your face and tone.

And so, for reasons that lie deep down among the roots of poverty, and sweated labour, and overwork, and bad housing arrangements—things of which childhood should by rights know nothing—it was the little boys who responded with the greatest alacrity to the invitation last Saturday night, and who trooped along gaily to the school round the corner, ran helter-skelter across the playground and into the brightly-lighted room, where there were to be people—Suffragettes, too!—telling fairy tales. And such little mothers as came brought their babies with them, and divided their attention between the stories and the precious bundles wrapped up in shawls or toddling on unsteady feet.

They loved the story of the King with the ugly face who killed the biggest dragon in the world and climbed the tower on the dragon's teeth, driven into the wall with his battleaxe, and who married the beautiful princess. And did they, one wondered, remember afterwards how the story ended: "And the country they ruled over was the happiest in the world because it had a Queen as well as a King"? And when they had listened breathlessly to the story of little Mrs. Rabbit, and how she laughed and laughed and laughed because she had so cleverly shown the whale and the elephant that it is not physical force that rules the world, did the children realise that they were learning a lesson that those wonderful "Antis," Lord Curzon and Lord Cromer and Mrs. Humphry Ward, refuse to learn?

How the children sang and shouted! And with what rapt attention they listened to the recitation about little "orphant Annie," and to the brief speech that followed!

They had at any rate one idea firmly fixed in their minds, and it was fixed so firmly that when they were asked, "Who is it who is always thinking about you and caring for you?" instead of answering, "Mother," as they were meant to, they shouted, as with one voice, "Mr. Lansbury!"

A Lantern Procession

Taking the light into dark places is so much the business of the Suffragist that a long procession dotted with bobbing lanterns seemed on Monday evening a fitting conclusion to the Suffrage campaign that had been going on in Bow and Bromley for the last ten days. Right round the constituency it went, along the two main thoroughfares, where the flaring lights of the shops and the hawkers' barrow added a weird kind of Impressionist effect to the coloured glass of the lanterns, and then across and through the dark labyrinth of streets that lay between Bow Road and Roman Road, bringing to them a blaze of light and colour that seemed typical of the aims of the women marching by. Not that you could really call it marching, for they literally "rushed" the constituency from end to end, and the pace at times became so rapid that one even saw burly constables doing a sprint, under cover of darkness, when they came to a convenient turn of the road, in order to catch up the contingent they were supposed to have under observation. And in the middle of the procession, for the space of a couple of hundred yards or so, walked, or rather danced, a shouting, singing multitude of girls and boys. The children have had the time of their lives during this election, because George Lansbury—"our George," as they call him—has looked upon them as future citizens, and has taken good care that they should know why they shouted for him. So the children's section of Monday's procession was one long shout for "Mr. Lansb'ry!" and no magic Pied Piper could ever lead the small people of Bow and Bromley away from that other leader they have chosen for themselves.

The grown-up processionists walked four abreast, but so many of the bystanders fell in and walked alongside that the effect at some points along the route was that of a dense mass of people, with a broad pathway of light down the middle where the lanterns were—the whole mass moving forward, now to the tune of a first-rate brass band (who had volunteered for the service), now to the sound of the "Marseillaise" or the Woman's March, or "John Brown," whose soul goes marching on—in Bow and Bromley, or anywhere else where people fight for liberty.

And so the procession, having completed its round, breathless but in no wise exhausted, broke up at Bow Church, and the speakers detached themselves from its ranks, and the main business of the evening began. In another ten minutes every street corner had its lorry and its speaker, and every speaker had her crowd, and the last evening before the poll ended in eloquence that was full of hope for the morrow.

◆

ELECTION HUMOURS

In Bow Baths

Time: Saturday afternoon, at end of densely-packed meeting.

Questioner in Gallery: "S'posing a man was a Tory, and his wife was a Liberal, and they both had votes, wouldn't it lead to dis——" (Rest of sentence drowned in howls of derision, in midst of which speaker manages to answer question adequately.)

Another Voice from Gallery (as soon as quiet is restored): "*We* ain't always scrapping with our wives if *he* is!" (Loud and continued applause.)

At an Open-Air Meeting

Scene: the Obelisk, Bow Road, where a Suffragette and a Tory are addressing large crowds alongside of one another. A sudden lull occurs.

Tory (disconcerted by getting an unexpected hearing): "What have these women *done* that you want to support 'em? They've burnt down people full of theatres——!"

Suffragette Speaker (icily): "Seems to me that would be a kindness." (Tory speaker doesn't get another chance.)

Misplaced Caution

Scene: Outside Suffragette Committee Rooms.

Suffragette (about to enter motor-car, remonstrating with crowd of small boys who persist in hanging on to the back of the car): "If you do that you may get killed. The other day I saw a little boy hanging on to a motor-car (crowd closes round eagerly), and he fell off (crowd becomes breathless), and another motor was coming along behind——"

Small Boy (unable to contain himself another minute): "*Did he bleed?*"

Sex Antagonism?

An open-air meeting is in progress, as a funeral comes along. Suffragist on lorry stops speaking till it has passed by.

Old Lady (approvingly): "Quite right! I likes to see respect shown to a funeral." (Glances round crowd, and adds with withering scorn), "Look at 'em! That's why I'm agin the men. They haven't even the pluck to take off their hats to a funeral!"

"Women Don't Want Votes"

Suffragist (who has just been offered a picture postcard of a mythical Suffragette, issued by the N.L.O.W.S.): "Do you think I look like that?"

Old Man: "Lor' bless you, mum, of course you don't! I don't think any of you look like that."

Suffragist: "Then why do you help the Antis by giving these away?"

Old Man: "I must earn a crust o' bread, lady." (He earns it.)

THE ELECTION FUND

We have pleasure in acknowledging a further sum of £90 for the Lansbury Election Fund, bringing the total up to £272. We know that the fact that he has not been successful in retaining the seat will only make our readers more anxious than before to show their appreciation of his action. This they can do in a very practical way by subscribing further sums to the fund which we are raising on his behalf. Unless this be done, a considerable sum will be left over to be faced by the candidate himself.

Subscription List to Tuesday, Nov. 26

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	182	2	0
E. S. Rutter, Esq.	0	5	0
Miss Balfour	1	1	0
Mrs. Couchman	0	10	6
"J. R."	0	5	0
Miss Beatrice C. Heap	0	2	6
Miss M. R. McGilchrist Gilchrist	10	0	0
Miss M. Lawrence	1	1	0
Miss Ethel Wedgewood......	1	0	0
Mrs. Pollock	0	5	0
Mrs. Mackworth	0	5	0
Mrs. S. Stansfield	5	0	0
C. S. Stansfield, Esq.	2	0	0
Mrs. Cather	1	1	0
Miss C. S. Evans	0	10	0
"M. A."	0	1	6
Madame Sales	10	0	0
Mrs. Pearce	0	5	0
"Old Comrade"	1	0	0
D. Johnson, Esq.	0	2	6
Miss J. E. Brailey	0	10	6
The Misses Baker	0	10	0
Mrs. E. Cobb	1	0	0
Miss E. F. Cobb	3	0	0
"E. M. O."	1	0	0
"F. B."	1	1	0
Two Birmingham Teachers.	0	5	0
Mrs. J. A. Russell	1	0	0
Miss B. M. Eagles and two Friends	0	10	0
"Nil Desperandum"	1	0	0
Mrs. E. M. White	0	2	6
Mrs. Hunt	0	5	0
Miss Janie Allan	10	10	0
Miss E. Thompson	0	10	0
Miss L. C. Lowe	1	0	0
Miss A. E. Lefrey	1	0	0
Mrs. Lovegrove	1	1	0
Miss S. E. Avery	0	5	0
Miss Sarah Benett	1	0	0
Dr. H. Gordon Clark	0	5	0
Mrs. Samuel	1	0	0
Miss H. S. Lewis	0	2	6
Miss Maud Burgess	0	2	6
Miss E. Lindsay	0	10	0
Mrs. Merryweather	10	0	0
Miss C. M. Dawson	0	10	0
Miss E. A. Carter	3	0	0
Anon.	5	0	0
Miss Pethick	3	0	0
Mrs. A. M. Smith	1	0	0
"A. A. A."	0	7	6
A Glasgow Friend	0	10	0
"A Mascotte"	0	2	6
Miss E. Barker	1	0	0
E. Richmond, Esq.	0	10	0
Miss M. C. Stopes	0	5	0
Lady Blake	2	2	0
Miss B. Dodgson	0	2	0
Miss A. C. Rutherford	0	10	0
"Suffragette Sophie"	0	2	6
Mrs. L. B. Stevens	1	1	0
Mrs. J. A. Boyd	1	0	0
Member W.S.P.U.	0	2	6
Miss G. Naylor	0	5	0
Miss Edith Schofield	1	0	0
Total	£275	17	0

"LIBERALISM" AT NOTTINGHAM

London Suffragists returning from the Bow and Bromley campaign on Saturday night were greeted at the various stations along the line by startling posters declaring that the Premier had outwitted the Suffragettes. But had he? Most people, reading the following (from the *Evening News*) would say that the Prime Minister of Great Britain, reduced to such a pass, had certainly been outwitted by the women suffragists! The *Evening News* says:—

"Mr. Asquith left Nottingham for London to-day (Saturday) by the 10.20 train, and, thanks to elaborate and ingenious arrangements, again succeeded in outwitting scores of Suffragettes who were on the look-out for him.

"The comedy began at Sir Jesse Boot's house, where the Premier and his wife and daughter had stayed the night. Motors were brought round to the rear, and, accompanied by detectives, the party was driven rapidly out of the city over Wilford Bridge by a circuitous route to the village of Edwalton, three miles from Nottingham on the Midland main line.

"There the London express was stopped, and the Premier and his family boarded a special coach without either passengers or even the station staff being aware of their identity.

"Last night was the first time for four years that Mr. Asquith has made a public appearance without Suffragette interruption. His arrival in Nottingham was kept strictly secret, and though bogus arrangements were given out, many Suffragettes, warned by wire from London of the time of the Prime Minister's departure from London, assembled at the Midland station to meet the ordinary express.

"Mr. Asquith, however, travelled by special train a few minutes in front of the ordinary, and was switched off the main line to Radford suburban station, where three motor-cars, each guarded by detectives, stood waiting with lights out in goods sidings. The train pulled up alongside the cars, and the party were driven to Sir Jesse Boot's house unobserved. Mr. Asquith expressed his delight at the successful arrangements."

During his stay in Nottingham, it is stated by the *Daily Sketch*, extraordinary precautions were taken: the police were posted outside the house of Sir Jesse Boot, the grounds were guarded against any possible attack by Suffragists, and the vicinity of the Albert Hall, where the Premier was to speak, was barricaded. A picture shows a constable looking in at "the broken window of the car which was afterwards protected by netting," while another shows a workman "covering the dome of the conservatory in the grounds with tarpaulin bound by wiring, to prevent a surprise attack," and still another is entitled, "erecting barricades round the meeting place." The *Daily Sketch* adds: "How Mr. Asquith eluded the Suffragists when he went to Nottingham reads like a page from a sensational novel."

Yet, in spite of all precautions, five or six militant Suffragists, according to the *Nottingham Guardian*, are believed to have secured tickets for the meeting!

The *Daily Chronicle* said:—

During the day there had been all sorts of sinister rumours as to the intentions of a great number of women who have been present in the town during the whole of the week. . . . In view of the fact that women were admitted to the meeting most elaborate preparations were made to maintain order. The services of 280 stewards were engaged for the hall, and 30 more were kept in reserve in the institute attached to Albert Hall. Hose pipes were run out in readiness to damp the enthusiasm of too-enthusiastic demonstrators. Strong barriers were erected across each of the approaches to the hall, all of which were guarded by detachments of police.

Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper says that Mr. Asquith expressed great delight at the successful arrangements.

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AT THE NATIONAL LIBERAL FEDERATION MEETING

The *Nottingham Guardian*, under such headlines as "Scenes of Uproar," "Suffragette Ejected," thus refers to the closing session of the National Liberal Federation in Nottingham on Friday, November 22:—

"The closing session of the National Liberal Federation in Nottingham was marked by scenes which, though lasting only a comparatively few minutes, very clearly proved the very sharp difference of opinion that exists in the Liberal party on the question of women's suffrage.

"The attempt of a local suffragette organiser to obtrude a speech on the meeting, when persisted in roused the anger of the delegates, and in the midst of much hubbub, she was ejected from the balcony and into the street with just as much violence as her own vigorous endeavours to remain compelled.

"Immediately following her removal, Mr. Arthur Richardson, J.P., who was seconding a resolution [dealing with the Government's Franchise Bill], confessed his sympathy with the enfranchisement of women, which gave rise to conflicting cries. He was called to order by the chairman, but many delegates urged him to continue, whilst others supported the chairman. Mr. Richardson, of course, promptly obeyed the chairman's ruling, but for the time being the proceedings were extremely noisy."

The same journal gives a description, of which the following is the substance, of the Suffragist episode—

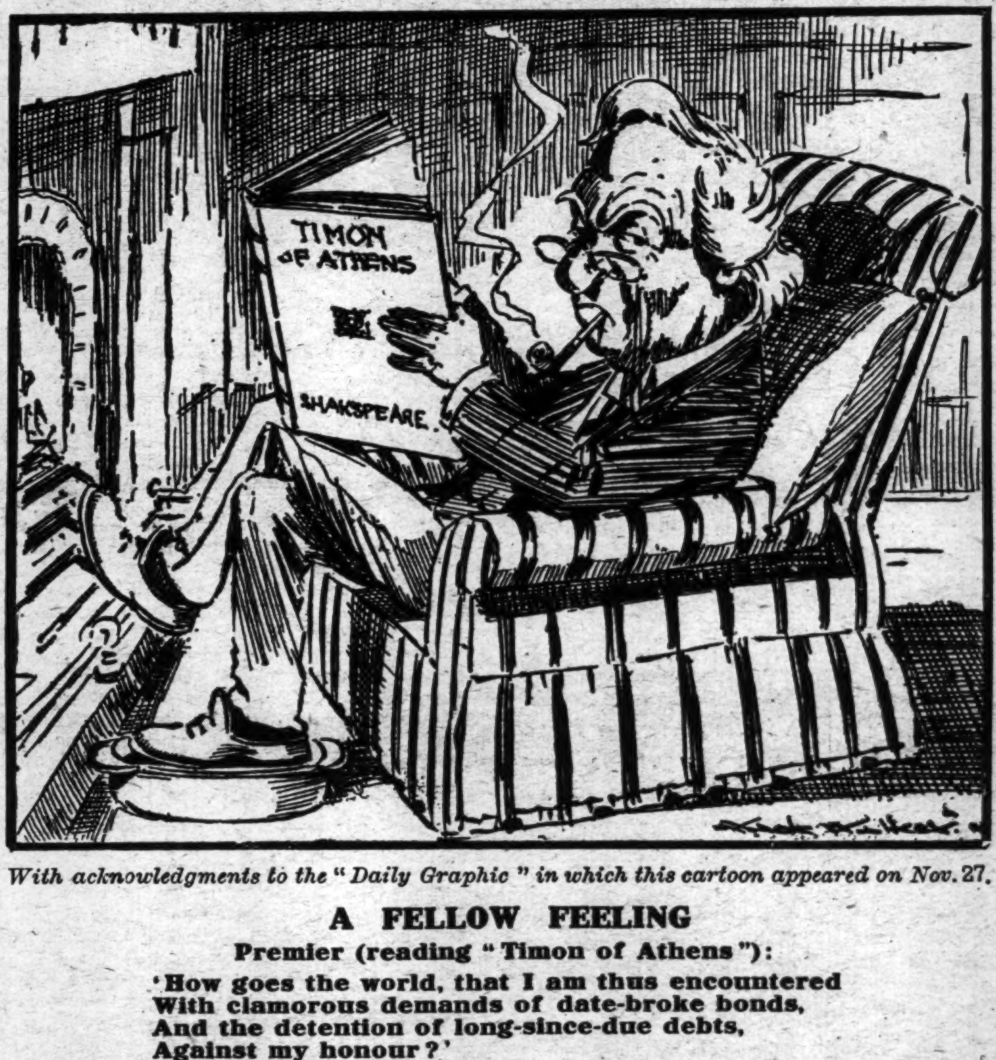
If they cannot pass the whole of their Franchise Reform Bill, Dr. Massie was saying, let them at least give the constituencies one man, one vote—(applause)—and the constituencies will be more than content.

At this point a woman's voice asked, "What about the injustice to women? Why should women be left out?" The audience laughed, and there were cries of "Put her out!"

Dr. Massie's speech was further interrupted, and then the chairman, Sir John Brunner, looking straight in front of him, exclaimed, "I make an appeal, a most respectful appeal, to the lady who sits on my left. Please God, women shall never cease to be sweet."

While the chairman was speaking, the interrupter had risen, and leaning forward, her hands resting on the balcony, she endeavoured to gain a hearing. "Mr. Chairman," she appealed, but she met with unsympathetic response. "Sit down!" and "Chair!" were shouted from every side, and when she did as she was requested, there was considerable applause. The chairman lifted his hand. "This lady, I am informed," he said, "is not a delegate, and has no right whatever to say a word in the meeting, and again I appeal to her—for goodness' sake be a sweet woman." The chairman was calling on Mr. Arthur Richardson when the Suffragist was seen to be again on her feet. "Mr. Chairman," she began, but got no further. A veritable roar of disapproval surged from one end of the hall to the other. "Chuck her out!" was heard on all sides, while someone exclaimed "Chuck her over!"

Meanwhile several delegates were approaching the suffragist. Her lips were still moving, but it was impossible to hear her for the din, and as she was dragged from her seat she tried to defeat the efforts of her captors by tenaciously clinging to the woodwork which lines the top of the balcony. She was, however, removed.



With acknowledgments to the "Daily Graphic" in which this cartoon appeared on Nov. 27.

A FELLOW FEELING

Premier (reading "Timon of Athens"):

'How goes the world, that I am thus encountered
With clamorous demands of date-broke bonds,
And the detention of long-since-due debts,
Against my honour?'

"Poor old Timon, I can quite understand his feelings."

The ejected Suffragist, adds the *Nottingham Guardian*, was Miss C. A. L. Marsh.

Lady Bamford Slack's Account

Two ladies left the platform during the incident, and the *Manchester Guardian* thus refers to their action:—

The two ladies who left the platform at the N.L.F. meeting at Nottingham were Mrs. Broadley Reid and Lady Slack. On inquiry being made by us Lady Slack made a statement which settles the point as to the reason of the withdrawal from the platform.

Mr. Massie's speech Lady Slack described as being "very provocative," and added: "When Mr. Massie came to the point of saying 'One man one vote' a woman in the balcony said, 'What about justice to women?' The chairman appealed to her, and said she must sit down, which she did. Sir John Brunner told her she must not interrupt, and added, 'I would ask you to be a sweet woman.' Directly he said that she got up again and called out something nobody could hear. Then the audience shouted, 'Chuck her out' and 'Chuck her over,' and six men came forward and they took hold of this woman and carried her out shoulder high. This was very upsetting, and there was a great deal of disturbance, during which Sir John Brunner said again, 'I appeal to you to be a sweet woman; please God, women will never cease to be sweet.' I said to Mrs. Broadley Reid, 'Are you going to stand this any longer?' It was an offensive way of speaking of women in a political meeting who were not there to be sweet. I went out and Mrs. Broadley Reid followed."

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A STRONG LIBERAL COMMENT

The *Manchester Guardian* commented in a leader, from which we select the following passage, on the extraordinary ruling of Sir John Brunner at the above meeting of the N.L.F. last Friday:—

We do not for one moment suppose that Sir John Brunner, one of the best and most respected Liberals in England, had the smallest intention of acting unfairly; but if in discussing a franchise resolution in an assembly of chosen Liberals it is to be deemed irrelevant so much as to mention the claims of one-half of the nation, it is high time that that assembly were called by some other name. It is not even as if the question of women's franchise were new to the Federation. The Federation has, as one of our correspondents to-day points out, repeatedly passed resolutions in support of it, and has never passed one against it. The question cuts deep as one of human right and dignity, and if ever the time should come—as we do not believe that it ever will come—that the Liberal party as a whole should declare itself in this matter on the side of political reaction, there will be plenty of Liberals, and those not the least ardent or instructed, who will feel it to be necessary to seek some other political connection.

To this Sir John Brunner answered in a letter, seeking to justify his own ruling with regard to Mr. Richardson, the speaker whom he called to order for mentioning Woman Suffrage in a discussion on the Franchise Bill; and the *Manchester Guardian* replied in an editorial note, concluding as follows:—

The fact remains that he first called Mr. Richardson to order in a very vehement phrase for remarks which were perfectly germane to the motion, and that he afterwards stopped his speech altogether when it was clearly his business to secure him a hearing. It is human to err, but we think it would be well that Sir John should admit that he was in error and should express regret for the extreme affront which he inflicted on the women's claim for representation and on the mass of his fellow-Liberals, who regard the recognition of this claim as the essence of Liberalism.

THE PREMIER AT OXFORD

We have received the following from the Secretary of the Oxford M.P.U.:—

I.

To the Prime Minister.

Dear Sir,—The Oxford Branch of the Men's Political Union is strongly desirous of sending a deputation of University and City representatives to meet you, on your forthcoming visit to Balliol on Monday next, for the purpose of expressing the views of Oxford Suffragist voters. The deputation will fall in with your convenience as to details of time and place.—Yours faithfully, W. HARRIS CROOK,

Hon. Sec. Oxford Men's Political Union.

November 21, 1912.

II.

From the Premier's Secretary.

Dear Sir,—I am desired by the Prime Minister to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of to-day's date, asking him to receive a deputation from the Men's Political Union on the occasion of his forthcoming visit to Balliol. The Prime Minister regrets that he is unable to accede to your request, and I am to add that his views on this question are well known, and have been frequently expressed both in and outside the House of Commons.—Yours faithfully,

November 21. ERIC DRUMMOND.

III.

To the Premier's Secretary.

Dear Sir,—Many thanks for your reply of the 21st, re the deputation to the Prime Minister on his visit to Balliol. I regret that my letter does not appear to have been sufficiently clearly worded. We all know very well indeed the views of the Premier on the Suffrage, and I agree with you that he has "frequently" expressed them "in and out of the House of Commons." Were that all we should not have ventured to trouble him. It is, however, that *we* desire to have *our views* as Oxford Suffragist voters laid before the Prime Minister, and for that purpose we still desire to meet him in deputation, consulting his convenience as to time and place.—Yours faithfully, W. HARRIS CROOK.

November 22.

IV.

From the Premier's Secretary.

Dear Sir,—The Prime Minister desires me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of to-day. He regrets that the time at his disposal will not allow of his receiving a deputation on the occasion of his visit to Balliol, but if you will be good enough to embody your views in a written communication to the Prime Minister they will receive his attention.—Yours faithfully, F. W. LEITH ROSS.

November 22.

V.

To the Premier.

Dear Sir,—We deeply regret that you do not feel able to grant us of the Oxford Men's Political Union a brief audience on Monday when you visit Balliol. We feel this matter is more important than to justify us in merely sending you a written communication. We fear that, with the many calls upon your time, the feeling of the majority of voters in this country as regards Women's Enfranchisement does not get adequate opportunity of expression before you. We shall, therefore, attend at Balliol on Monday evening in the hopes that you will have the courtesy to give a short audience to our deputation, thereby granting a really constitutional request on our part.—Yours faithfully,

W. HARRIS CROOK.

November 23.

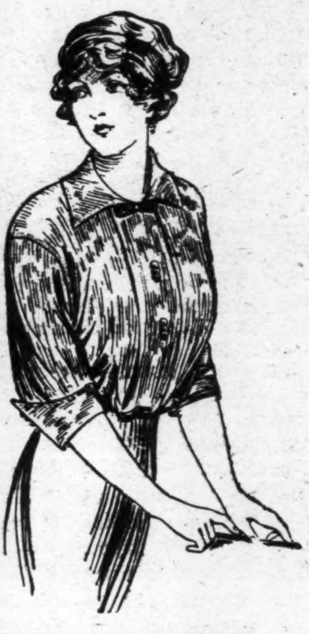
The representatives of the Oxford M.P.U. had the pleasure of seeing the Premier of Britain slink out of the motor-car, on the floor of which he had hidden, and slip into Balliol behind thick ranks of police and detectives, to the sound of loud cries of "Votes for Women!" from the local Suffragettes. Then were the gates of Balliol closed and chained, and behind their thickness stood a fine specimen of a bull-terrier! To such extremities has the English Premier descended at the whisper of "Suffragette" or "Suffragist voters"!

The local deputation had the consolation of knowing that their news would be none the less unpleasant for Mr. Asquith when he received it by letter. It was to the effect that the Oxfordshire Suffragist voters held the balance of power in the divisions of North Oxon and Mid Oxon, and they are determined to use that power to throw out and keep out the Government nominee in those constituencies till such time as the Government thinks fit to become responsible for giving the Parliamentary vote to women as well as to men. Of this the local Liberals, whose party comes before their principles, are well aware.

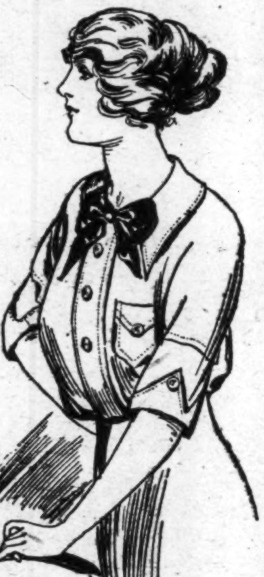
W. H. C.

WILLIAM
OWEN

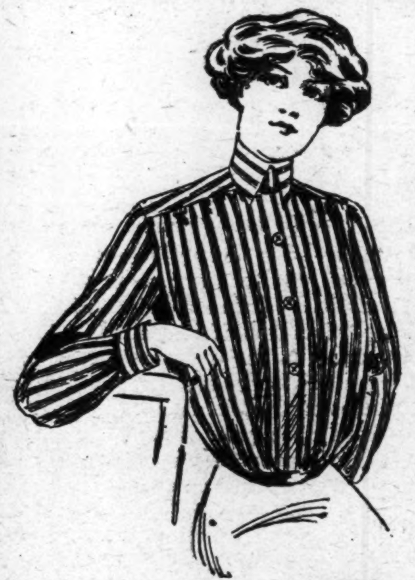
USEFUL GIFTS
FOR CHRISTMAS



AILSA
Silk Crepon Blouses, as sketch, in pale blue, pink and reseda.
Paris price,
18 francs
Special price,
5/11



LUCIA
Dainty Robespierre Blouse, in good quality Jap Silk, Sports Pocket, new Glass Buttons, and coloured Silk Bow.
4/11
Unique value.



ALYS
Useful Tailor-cut Flannel Shirt as sketch.
Price **5/9**
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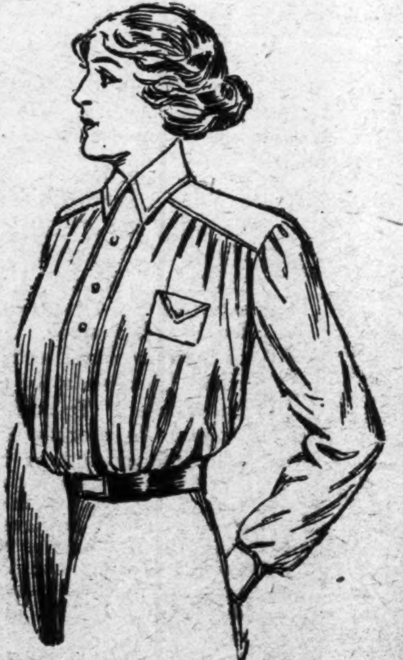

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EGYPT TO-DAY

Some Misrepresentations Removed

The mysteries unveiled in "Veiled Mysteries of Egypt," by S. H. Leeder (Eveleigh Nash, 16s.), are perhaps not really mysteries so much as strange Western misunderstandings of the religion and ways of Islam. These misunderstandings are due partly to ignorance, partly to misrepresentations, wilful or otherwise, on the part of writers on the subject. Moslems certainly throw a veil of reticence over their most cherished religious beliefs, because they dread the mockery of foreigners; and it must be confessed that English travellers too frequently adopt a supercilious attitude towards customs and beliefs differing from their own. Like Lady Duff Gordon before him, Mr. Leeder made friends among all classes, and was admitted to many social and religious ceremonies barred, as a rule, to "unbelievers," for instance, to the weaving of the wonderful Carpet woven each year for the Kaaba pilgrimage, and to the strange, barbarous festival of Hosein-Hassan. He speaks in high terms of the actual influence of Islamism on family and social life, so misrepresented to Westerners, chiefly, alas! by missionaries.

The position of women is shown to be in some respects better than is usually supposed. The law of inheritance is actually more in their favour than is the case in our country, but it goes without saying that the laxity about divorce and the seclusion of the *harcem* deprive Moslem women of their rightful place in life. It is interesting to compare the actual teachings of Mahomet concerning women with those attributed to him, for while the Prophet declared "Woman to be equal with man," he is usually credited with very different views.

Some centuries ago Moslem women had the right to vote and to take part in theological and legal debates, and did so, but they lost many of these earlier rights during a period of luxury and enervation. It was under Persian influence that the Moslem woman lost her liberty and became reconciled to the life of the *hareem.*

Reformers aim at a return to the early laws taught by the Prophet. The present desire for education is a hopeful sign, although Lord Cromer is fearful lest the introduction of European ideals should destroy the old religion of the Moslem woman and leave her, as it has left the Moslem man, an Agnostic. Still, even he urges the improvement of her condition if the nation is to advance. Between grandmotherly fears as to what *may* happen and a vague hope of "improvement," one wonders what future awaits the Moslem woman! Such lovers of half measures are like hens who take the ducklings to the water's edge and then are dismayed when their charges swim.

Mr. Leeder gives a pleasant picture of life among Egyptian natives of various classes, and visitors to the land of Antiquity would do well to turn to his book in order to gain some measure of sympathetic insight into the living race inhabiting it to-day. If this author sees them *couleur de rose*, others have painted them too much in black, while most tourists know nothing whatever about present-day Egypt. Numerous and excellent photographs add to the interest of the book.

◆

A TROUBADOUR OF THE SPIRIT*

This little poem has a message for to-day, and it is a message best told by a seer who tells his vision in verse. For St. Francis was a poet and a lover, and he sang of and loved all simple, workaday things, and made them lively and of good report. His message was for the layman as well as for the religious. To quote the introduction to the poem, "The brown habit fits a busy journalist better than one whose place is at the high tables of the great. And if the Christian Faith is to hearten mankind again, let us not forget that the fishers and publicans—and at least one journalist of old—were awake to the Divine arrogance of the Son of Man; while pomp and power slept humbly beneath Cæsar's yoke." St. Francis was the apostle of joy, of an inner joy overcoming all sorrow of adverse happenings.

> "Hail, joyful son sorrow!
> In whom the Master liveth,
> Thy laughter sounds thro' all the world
> While Pleasure's doleful children
> In sensual prison lie,
> Their pomp and passion ended,
> Their banners torn and furled."

The poem will make a delightful Christmas present to a friend who will understand, and will be read again and again.

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*"St. Francis: A Troubadour of the Spirit." By Reginald R. Buckley. (David Nutt. 1s.)

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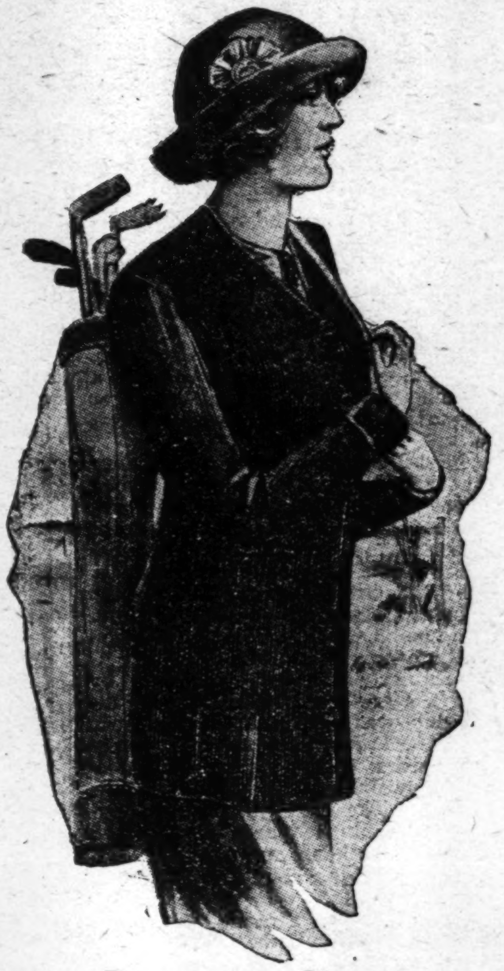

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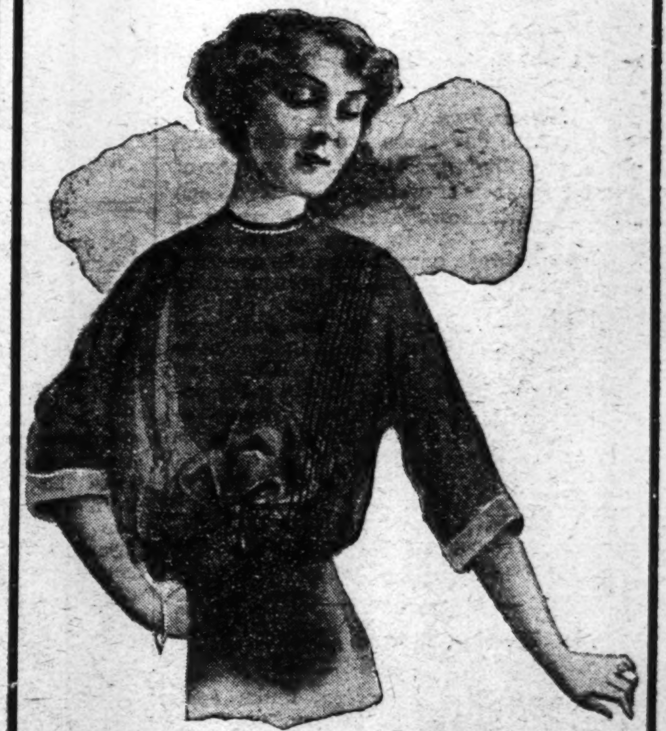

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NEW BOOKS

WOMAN AS HOUSEKEEPER*

During the last three centuries cooks and kings have sadly deteriorated. One classes them together because they both exist for a public, have no meaning in themselves, and would be nonentities on a desert island. But in close connection they once made a jolly couple, as our nursery-rhymes testify. Many a child has marvelled how the king could cut the pie without slicing the blackbirds, and felt it was a silly grown-up fiction that they "began to sing." But like all really wonderful things, it appears to have been true; and "before good housekeeping left England" one of the "delights of the nobility" consisted in just such a dainty dish. At the table of Sir Kenelm Digby, in the seventeenth century, we read of a pastry stag, filled with claret, and flanked by two pies, one containing live frogs, the other live birds. When the pies were opened the birds were to fly into the candles and put out the lights,leaving the soft, jumping frogs to make the "ladies skip and shriek" in the dark. At opposite ends of the same table were a castle and a ship which fired real gunpowder, and there was a man-of-war, with egg-shell cannon balls, with which the guests pelted each other. Such devices suggest a lack of topics for conversation, and mental fatigue or lassitude on the part of the diners. We may imagine that the lady of the house at least would be tired, for she herself had to see to the preparing of all the wonders of her table, besides ordering an enormously complicated household. In Sir Kenelm's days it was the fashion to employ a "chef," but this would only deprive the mistress of some of her interesting work, while adding to domestic difficulties. One sees her, busy and a little perturbed, hurrying from cellar to still-room and linen-closet, wondering if her larder is well enough stocked to provide "a whole ark" at dinner time, when no one knows how many chance travellers may have to be fed. Could she, in a vision, have seen the modest housekeeping of to-day, she might perhaps have prayed for re-incarnation. I think it is not going too far to suggest that the cruelly heavy housekeeping of those times was by no means the choice of the women. Meals were prepared definitely for men and guests. The lady of the house, who did all the carving and dividing, would take her own dinner in private, an hour or two before that of her lord. I do not mean that she was not "honoured." No doubt she was—if she sufficiently served the needs of her men-kind. But she was distinctly an adjunct to more serious affairs. In earlier times, when the work of her own hands was more important, and when her day began at 6.30 with the distribution of food to the poor at her gate, she was herself a power and a personage. But, bit by bit, the more dignified work of the housewife has been taken from her hands, and her whole economic position has been undermined by this process. When all the good things of life depended on her clever fingers, she had a position not accorded to her in the man-made world of to-day. It is to her infinite credit that she has ceased merely to play to the appetites of husband and sons, but with her growing independence has succeeded in simplifying life. On a *fast* day in the sixteenth century you must have thirty-two covers on the table. The independent housewife of to-day will put down one or two wholesome dishes and know that enough is better than a feast.

Women and children in the seventeeth century died young. Women were over-worked, children over-taught. Little Richard Evelyn, at the age of five, "disengaged his godparents" because he had mastered his whole duty to life. That he died in that same year is no wonder. The mother was less important than the housewife, and herself passed away long before the date we should now think natural.

I cannot but feel that in this sketch of the English housewife Miss Rose Bradley has not done justice to the mental life of the women she seeks to draw. All she says is true; but it is unessential. Those women had hearts and brains as well as kitchens. The key to this defect of the author may be found in such references as, "in these days it is permitted" to the single woman "to carry a banner through the streets of London on behalf of some feminine grievance, real or imaginary." This writer is still in the eighteenth century. There has been no "permission" to carry banners! Modern women have insisted on their right to expression—and I am sure that the very best housekeepers of the past centuries would be the first to march with them to-day.

J. E. M. B.

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* "The English Housewife; In the 17th and 18th Centuries.' By Rose M. Bradley. (Arnold. 12s. 6d. net.)

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A SILLY BOOK*

As Mr. Farquarson does not take either his subject or his readers very seriously, one hopes he does not regard himself with any great sense of responsibility. It would be difficult to say from which form of vanity he suffers most; but his confident remarks on Parliament, politics, and social life fall well below the level of any moderately trained intellect. Indeed, there would have been nothing to say about this volume had one not read painfully as far as Chapter IX., in which the author thinks he is writing on the Votes for Women movement. With striking originality he declares: "I strongly hold that there are constitutional and fundamental, physiological and racial distinctions which dig a deep gulf between men and women. To begin with, child-bearing must be taken into account!" This is almost daring for an ex-M.P. But he ventures even beyond this: "I quite admit that militant tactics have brought the question within the range of practical politics; but they should have been allowed to remain there. Everything was going well when I left the House, and the last vote I gave there was for the cause. . . ."

After this touch of manly pathos the writer goes on to "sum up my indictment against women, and most regretfully, for no one appreciates their good points more than I do, or have (*sic*) had greater delight in the privilege of knowing specially selected members of the group." Now for the "indictment," which presumably is based on observation of those "specially selected."

Women's "sense of veracity is on a far lower level than men's"; "they want the faculty to adhere to an honourable obligation"; "women are essentially insubordinate" (one only wishes this were more true); they have "a very elementary sense of proportion"; "their excessive loquacity and power of illogical argument makes it very difficult to do business with them"; "they possess selfish and cynical indifference to the convenience and safety of others"; they "trade upon the privileges of their sex. When it is necessary to turn them out of any public building, they fall down, bite, scratch, kick, and pull the hair and beards of the unfortunate policemen," &c. Some women, unluckily, "do not get the chance of maternity," and this makes them "priggish." One need not quote more. This poor gentleman half apologises for "bringing into dark and even lurid prominence the worst features of the complex blend that goes to make up the female character," and handsomely reminds "my readers how essential women are and always have been."

It is probably unnecessary to add that Mr. Farquarson's reflections on travel, politics, and other topics are on a level with his *obiter dicta* upon women. Why is a sane public seriously invited to pay seven and sixpence for this mass of twaddle and rubbish?

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* "The House of Commons from Within." By the Rt. Hon. Robert Farquarson. (Williams & Norgate. 7s, 6d. net.)

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POULTRY-FARMING AND RELIGION

It is impossible to imagine that in these days a story of poultry-farming heavily weighted with evangelical religious teaching would be considered good enough as "A Story for Boys." Yet this is what Miss E. Everett Green's latest book, "Aunt Patience: a Story for Girls" (The Religious Tract Society, 3s. 6d.), mainly consists of. And one regrets the unsatisfactory passages the more because Pat Digby is a first-rate study of a modern girl who wants to do something worth doing with her life. After a year's visit to a charming farmhouse Pat settles down to learn poultry-farming there, while her sister Viola goes back to a round of gaiety equipped with such wisdom as she can absorb from a lady who strikes us as a rather impossible person, the Aunt who gives her name to the story. Here is a specimen of the Aunt's conversation:—

> I should not wish to own or use one [a motor-car] for my own pleasure or convenience, because as at present built and with the condition of our roads one cannot do so without being a source of injury and discomfort to others during a great part of the year.

Could Mrs. Fairchild herself have put it better? Aunt Patience never loses an opportunity of improving the occasion. but we must protest against a story for girls, or boys either, being made the vehicle of such doctrines as the following:—

> Socialism is trying to build up a world, not on God's lines, but on man's systems of human wisdom. God has never instituted equality anywhere . . . and now offering [i.e., charity] is to become despised, and rates levied to meet all human needs . . . it will wreck society and . . . form the kingdom of Anti-Christ and the Beast . . .

Apart from the flaws indicated, the story is healthy and modern, and contains many practical hints about poultry-farming. We note that the frontispiece is drawn by our Suffragist friend Mr. Victor Prout.

◆

BOOKS RECEIVED

"The Government of England." Vols. 1 and 2. By A. Laurence Nowell. (London: Macmillan. Price 17s. net each.)

"Child Labour in City Streets." By Edward N. Clopper. (London: Macmillan. Price 5s. 6d. net.)

"Social Progress in Contemporary Europe." By Fredk. A. Ogg. (London: Macmillan. Price 6s. 6d. net.)

"The Heroine in Bronze." By James Lane Allen. (London: Macmillan. Price 6s. net.)

"George Gissing: A Critical Study." By Frank Swinnerton. (London: Martin Secker. Price 7s. 6d. net.)

"The Light Bearers." By M. Sylvestre. (London: John Long. Price 6s.)

"The Dutch Twins." By Lucy Fitch Perkins. (London: Constable. Price 3s. 6d. net.)

"A Child's Day." By Walter De La Mare; pictures by Carine and Will Cadby. (London: Constable. Price 5s. net.)

"The Declension of Henry D'Albiac. By V. Goldie. (London: Heinemann. Price 6s.)

"Die Suffragettes." By Kaethe Schirmacher. (Weimar: Alexander Duncker Verlag. Price 2.50.)

"Marriage and Motherhood." By H. S. Davidson, M.B., F.R.C.S, (Edinburgh: T. C. and E. C. Jack. Price 6d. net.)

"The Baby." By a University Woman. (Edinburgh: T. C. and E. C. Jack. Price 6d. net.)

"Daily News and Leader Year Book." Price 6d. net.

"Our Army in India and Regulation of Vice." (British Committee of the International Abolitionist Federation. Price 6d. net.)

"The Tragedy of the Woman Worker." By H. D. Roberts. (Liverpool: Anti-Sweating League. Price 1d.)

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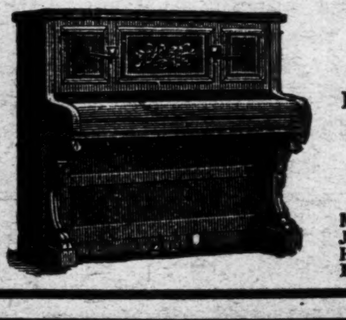

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1912.

WILL WOMEN GET VOTES IN JANUARY?

The next big event in the Woman Suffrage world is the Government's Franchise Bill. This measure, which, according to Mr. Lloyd George and Sir Edward Grey, is to provide the "grand opportunity" for securing the Parliamentary vote for women, was introduced and passed its first reading on June 17, and was carried through its second reading on July 12. The Committee stage, however, has not yet been entered upon, and will certainly not be reached before Christmas. But though several weeks must still elapse before any further steps are likely to be taken, certain questions with regard to the Bill are already agitating the ranks of Suffragists and Anti-Suffragists alike.

In the first place, what are the intentions of the Government with regard to the Bill as a whole? Do they seriously propose to carry it through all its stages in the House of Commons this session? If so, when are they going to do it? Owing to the delay arising out of the recent defeat in the House, the Government programme is already considerably in arrear, and so far no effective reduction has been announced. According to the *Times* Parliamentary Correspondent, the Home Rule Bill and the Welsh Disestablishment Bill will, if proceeded with continuously, occupy the time of the House up till the end of January. If the Franchise Bill is dealt with simultaneously or subsequently, the whole programme cannot be concluded before the middle of February, and beyond that the Session must be continued for a whole month if the benefit of the Parliament Act is to be secured for these measures. Owing to the necessity of carrying certain financial resolutions through before March 31, such a course will necessitate the continuance of the 1912 Session into the beginning of April, 1913. On the other hand, if the Bill be dropped altogether, or if it be converted into a simple Plural Voting Bill, what becomes of the pledges of the Prime Minister to women and of Mr. Lloyd George's "grand opportunity," on the strength of which he gaily "torpedoed the Conciliation Bill"?

Secondly, assuming that the Bill is proceeded with, will the Speaker rule any amendments in favour of Woman Suffrage out of order on the ground that the question has already been adversely decided by the defeat of the Conciliation Bill, and that the question cannot be re-opened in the same Session? On this point, which was brought before our readers last week in the letter from Mr. Laurence Housman, it is, of course, impossible to decide absolutely in advance; but on the face of it, such a course would seem to us wholly unjustifiable. The Conciliation Bill was a definite concrete measure designed to give the vote to a specified class of women; it is difficult to see how a Woman Suffrage amendment to a Bill creating a new franchise for men could be held to be identical with this proposal. Moreover, in the early days of the Session, we were given to understand that the question had already been privately put to the Speaker, and that he had definitely stated that in his opinion any Woman Suffrage amendment to the Bill would be in order. Obviously, however, too much reliance must not be placed on unofficial assertions of this kind.

Recently a third question of great importance has been discussed in the *Times* and elsewhere. It is generally supposed that a preliminary step towards the inclusion of women in the Bill, either in large or small numbers, will be the deletion of the word "male," which occurs in the first section of the first clause. If this amendment be carried, what will be its effect? Will it merely pave the way to any one of the three amendments which are respectively supported by different sections in the House of Commons, or will it of necessity decide that men and women shall have an identical Parliamentary franchise? In order that our readers may understand the point at issue, we print the whole of the first clause of the Bill, which reads as follows:—

> I. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, every male person shall be entitled to be registered as a parliamentary elector for a constituency, if that person is qualified in accordance with this Act to be registered in that constituency, and while so registered shall be entitled to vote at an election of a member to serve in Parliament for that constituency; but a person shall not be registered or vote for more than one constituency.
>
> (2) For the purposes of this Act a person shall be qualified to be registered in a constituency as a parliamentary elector if that person resides, or is an occupier of land or premises, in that constituency, and has so resided, or been an occupier, for a continuous period of at least six months last past, or during such a period has so resided for part of the period, and so been an occupier for the remainder of the period.

This is the only clause in the Bill which deals with the main question of the Parliamentary franchise, except the last, which simply repeals all previous franchise laws.

If the word "male" be struck out the effective parts of the first clause would read as follows: "Every person shall be entitled to be registered as a Parliamentary elector if that person is qualified . . . A person shall be qualified if that person resides or is an occupier, &c." Now the case of Chorlton v. Lings decided that women were not persons for the purpose of the franchise laws unless expressly defined as such. But in the present Bill "person" is subsequently used to include both men and women; it is therefore at least open to question whether the deletion of the word "male" would not of itself effect the enfranchisement of women. If so, then unless a limiting amendment be subsequently carried women would vote on the same terms as men. The question is further raised whether any amendment limiting the number of women voters or creating a different franchise for women from that conceded to men would be in order.

These are complicated questions of legal technology and Parliamentary procedure, on which we are not able to express a definite opinion at this juncture. What we are certain of, however, is that, right or wrong, the point will be pressed for all it is worth by Anti-Suffragists in the House of Commons to frighten M.P.'s off from voting for the amendment. In view of the definite pledges of Mr. Asquith and Mr. Lloyd George that the Bill would be open to Woman Suffrage amendments of various kinds, it is difficult to see how they can urge this point themselves, but there are plenty of others who will urge it for them.

The real fact is that the members of the Coalition think that the passage of any Woman Suffrage amendment to the Bill would be "disloyal to Asquith" and "disruptive of the party," and that they will find some excuse, good or bad, for breaking their pledges when the time comes. If further proof were needed of this fact it would be found in the arbitrary ruling of Sir John Brunner at the Nottingham Conference of the Liberal Federation, to which we refer elsewhere. It is therefore quite useless for women to put the smallest confidence in the Franchise Bill or in any other means of obtaining the vote so long as the present Government remain in office, and are of their present frame of mind.

There is, therefore, only one thing open to women to do, whether they are Liberal, Conservative, Labour, or non-party. They must use every means in their power to break up the present Anti-Suffrage Government and to make it clear to any Government which may succeed them that their peaceful tenure of office depends on their acceptance of Woman Suffrage as a plank in their party platform.

WHY WOMEN WANT THE VOTE

More About the White Slave Traffic

Women are determined to win the Vote, because they realise that their point of view needs to be expressed in the laws that govern the social conditions of a world in which they and their children have to live.

There are many questions that, while vital to the community as a whole, affect women specially, because they deal with the sanctity of the home, with the mortality of infants, with the nurture and education and health of children, with the care of the sick and the aged, with the welfare of their own sex in the industrial field, and with the status, honour, and safety of womanhood in the world at large.

The knowledge that women have gained during recent years of the traffic in white women carried on as a great commercial organisation, which grows rich upon the degradation and shame of womanhood, has awakened thousands of women to a new sense of responsibility. For politics these newly-awakened women care next to nothing. Whether Mr. Asquith be Prime Minister of a Liberal Government or Mr. Balfour or Mr. Bonar Law or anybody else be Prime Minister of a Conservative Government is a matter of indifference to them. But they now see that having the vote does not simply mean keeping this party or the other party in power Having the vote means having the power to bring pressure to bear upon legislators. And amongst many other things, having the vote means having the power to put a stop to the White Slave Traffic.

The Black Slave Traffic was killed when it was attacked financially, first by legislation and then by the administration of the law. That is to say, laws were passed making it illegal to capture black men, to ship them away from their native land and to sell them for purposes of industry. Then the high seas were policed. Great vigilance was exercised. A suspect ship, when sighted, was pursued. If slaves were discovered as part of the cargo, the whole ship was confiscated. In this way the risks of the trade became so great and the profits so small that it was not worth while to continue it. And so this traffic died.

The White Slave Trade to-day is, as everyone knows, a very profitable business indeed. Its promoters grow rich by the capture and sale of young white girls, and not for purposes of industry, but for purposes of vice That trade can be killed as the Black Slave Trade was killed by laws and administration, rendering it financially unprofitable. Women who feel the shame and misery of these girls as their own shame, and are resolved to protect the lives of helpless children in the future, are going to have that trade killed. But before they can obtain the necessary power over legislation they must first obtain the vote.

That is why thousands of women are fighting for the vote to-day. And that is why, through the pages of Votes for Women, we call upon every mother, every teacher of the young, every woman who loves purity and hates evil, who loves honour and regards shame as worse than death, to come right out and take her stand beside those who are in revolt against the political helplessness of women.

The Votes for Women agitation is a crusade. It is a Holy War first and a political agitation second. As a political agitation it appeals to the politically-minded amongst women. As a Holy War it appeals to every woman who regards life as a great moral battlefield, where all are called to strive for the ideals that they conceive to be the best and to prove their valour by being faithful unto death.

One of the very finest ideals that women have to live for is that of race-development. This is essentially women's business. To a very large extent women are the keepers of the keys of destiny so far as the future of race improvement and development is concerned.

It is from this point of view that we regard the whole question of an equal moral standard for men and women, and it is from this point of view that we deplore and must seek to prevent the degradation of the bodies of women. For while the bodies of women have ever been laid as a willing sacrifice upon the altar that is consecrated to the future of the human race, it is a very terrible perversion that they should be sacrificed as they are to-day to disease-dealing and death-bringing vice, fatal to humanity.

Women have to understand how the vote will help them not only to kill the actual White Slave Traffic as a profitable commercial organisation, but also to deal with a very much larger question, which presents infinitely greater difficulties.

For one woman who is decoyed and captured and sold by the agents of this hideous commerce there are hundreds (as I said last week in this paper) who are forced for economic reasons and from various other causes to traffic with their own honour and to sell themselves. Again and again men have tried in many countries and throughout the centuries to put down this widespread evil by legislation. In Puritan times the utmost rigour of the law was exercised in the attempt to stamp out this form of immorality. But all in vain were penalties and punishments multiplied. Human nature and economic causes proved too strong for primitive legislation. And men began to say that it was impossible to make people moral by Act of Parliament.

But men tried to deal with this question alone, and they tried the wrong way. They attempted the impossible. All their laws were penal laws. And because they were dealing not merely with a trade that could be killed by penal laws, but with much bigger things, because they were dealing with human hearts and human passions, they failed. You do not help people to be good by putting them in prison, by branding them, or by flogging them.

Penal legislation failed. The only thing that can touch the root of the evil, of which the White Slave Traffic is only a poisonous flower, is constructive legislation. In countries where women have the vote, men and women are now trying the plan of constructive legislation, and they find it is succeeding.

There are three laws, not penal laws, but constructive laws, that would do more to put down prostitution and all its attendant evils in this country than all the primitive laws that have ever yet been tried Next week I want to say what these three laws are.

But women must never forget for one moment that it is not much good to want this law passed, or the other law passed, until they have won the power to get it passed Therefore for the present moment they must concentrate on getting the vote.

Emmeline Pethick Lawrence.

PLAYS OF THE WEEK

"The Eldest Son"

No playgoer who sees Mr. Galsworthy's play, "The Eldest Son," at the Kingsway Theatre, can fail to be reminded of "Hindle Wakes," the play which has attracted so much attention in London this autumn. For the essential idea of the two plays is really the same. In the nineteenth century the well-worn story of the man and the woman always took a certain shape; the woman claimed marriage as her right, the man held back. Or if the woman was prepared to let the man off it was entirely for *his* sake and for *his* career. In these two plays of the twentieth century the woman is shown refusing the marriage that the man is determined to offer her; and this refusal is made not on behalf of the man, but on her own behalf, or on behalf of her family.

Mr. Galsworthy's play, which is really considerably the older of the two—for it is some years since it originally appeared in book form—does not come to this dénouement quite so definitely as the play by Mr. Stanley Houghton; Freda Studdenham is torn for some time between her own love for Bill Cheshire and her knowledge that he does not love her, and she only makes her final decision after the intervention of her father, the keeper. In Stanley Houghton's play, on the other hand, the girl defies father and mother, and flatly refuses from the first to consider the offer of marriage which has been made to her. She is, of course, a Lancashire Mill Girl, with an independent economic position, and therefore she is able to take up a position which to the keeper's daughter would not have been possible.

Apart from the plot itself, there is considerable interest in the attitude adopted by the different members of the family towards the central figures. And here Mr. Galsworthy is true to the high traditions which one has been accustomed to look for in his work. He never exaggerates a character in order to get an effect. The humour of the piece is the real humour of tragedy which comes from the inadequacy of men and women when confronted with things bigger than they can understand. The Squire, admirably played by Mr. Edmund Maurice, and his wife (Miss Irene Rooke) are essentially people that one might expect to meet in any country house. On the other hand, their daughter, Dot, is to some extent a creation of Mr. Galsworthy's own. Although the word is never mentioned, one feels instinctively that Dot is a Suffragette, and that Mr. Galsworthy's own interpretation of the play is to be found in her curt phrase and shrug of the shoulders before the curtain falls. The part is rendered with great spirit by Miss Irene McLeod, whose talent and living youthfulness should carry her far in her profession.

The play is preceded by some very delightful dances by Margaret Morris and the children she has trained. Readers of Votes for Women should make a point of being in time to see these as well as the play itself.

"The Younger Generation"

It really was Grandmother Kennion's own fault! She pulled the reins too tightly, and if James didn't kick over the traces as Tom did, he didn't come out unscathed. He had a touch of the hypocrite about him, had James, and he told a big, whopping lie to his own children, so as to be able to stay on his pedestal as a model father! But we rather think his children doubted him just a little, though breezy Uncle Tom didn't give him away, as he might easily have done.

It was perhaps because most of the audience at the Haymarket Theatre the other night kept stored carefully away in that part of the grey-matter that looks after memories, something that gave them a fellow-feeling with the young Kennions, that Mr. Stanley Houghton's play, "The Younger Generation," so thoroughly struck home. We, too, in our young days, kicked against the pricks and hurt ourselves, and incidentally our elders also. And if, when the still younger generation—the children of Grace and Arthur and Reggie Kennion—are growing up, there are fewer or even no pricks at all to kick against, it will still be Grandmother Kennion's fault. Very likely she will march not only out of the parlour and out of the house, but out of this mortal coil itself before she sees that day; and her relatives, one fears, will breathe a sigh of relief. That, too, she will have brought on herself. And the moral for all grandmothers, Governments included, is that Coercion makes Rebels.

After so much said, it is hardly necessary to add that "The Younger Generation" is, in the language of that generation, "a perfectly ripping play." As the curtain went up on the final scene we looked at one another and said quite simultaneously: "And to think that it is nearly over!" For a play so natural, so buoyant—almost one had said so boyish—is as refreshing as the apples that Reggie Kennion intended to carry off to his room that Sunday afternoon, and that his father, James Kennion (Mr. Stanley Drewitt) took from him and sourly replaced in the épergne on the parlour table.

As to the acting, one need only say that the cast includes Mrs. Crowe as the Grandmother, Miss Ada King as the Mother, and Mr. Nigel Playfair as the breezy Uncle, while the children are very naturally played by Miss Caroline Bayley, Mr. J. Woodall Birde, and Mr J. V. Bryant. "The Younger Generation" contains none of the distressing problems of its more powerful successor by the same writer, "Hindle Wakes," and if it pokes fun at a certain class of society, it does so with great good-humour. We shall not soon forget, for example, the peculiar tilt of Mr. James Kennion's silk hat as he passes the window driving his family before him to chapel on Sunday morning.

There are two other plays in the triple bill at the Haymarket. The adventure of the impecunious Frenchman, M. Aristide Pujol (Mr. Leon M. Lion), and his little deal in a "Corot" (by Mr. Locke) is distinctly healthy and amusing Of the third play, "The Golden Doom," it can only be said that no amount of lavish expenditure on stage accessories can atone for poverty of thought.

THE LLANYSTUMDWY OUTRAGE

The Charge Dismissed

As stated in last week's VOTES FOR WOMEN, the first case in connection with the Llanystumdwy outrages upon woman Suffragists was heard on Wednesday last, at Pwllheli, the result being a dismissal of the charge..

The case, which had aroused widespread interest, was taken before a full bench of justices, and the court was crowded. Colonel Lloyd Evans was chairman, and his colleagues were the Hon. Frederick Wynn, Colonel Alan Gough, Messrs. Maurice Jones, C. H. Lloyd, J. G. Jones, W. Anthony, William Thomas, J. R. Jones, Dr. Gwenogfryn Evans, Dr. G. W. Griffiths, the Rev. J. C. Williams Ellis, Mr. J. Hughes Roberts, and Dr. Wynne Griffiths.

Owing to the decision of the police to exclude all women from the court, some excitement was created outside by the persistent efforts of a suffragist from Nevin to gain admittance; eventually she was permitted to enter, and found standing room at the back of the court.

The prosecution was undertaken by the police, acting on instructions from the Home Office. The name of the accused was Benjamin Evans, a solicitor's clerk, living at Pwllheli. The lady assaulted was Mrs. Watson, of Streatham. The defence was that whatever rough handling Mrs. Watson may have been subjected to, it was not done by Evans. Mr. S. R. Dew, solicitor, conducted the prosecution, and Mr. Evan R. Davies, of Pwllheli, appeared for the defence.

Mr. Dew told the Bench that there would be no disguising the fact that Mrs. Watson was a suffragette. It was quite true that she had attended meetings at which Cabinet Ministers had spoken, and had put questions and made observations. On September 21 she was at the meeting at Llanstumdwy addressed by Mr. Lloyd George. Someone said something about votes for women, and the Chancellor in alluding to it remarked that the suffragists were only injuring their cause by these protests. Thereupon Mrs. Watson said, "Nonsense, we are not." "I do not know," said Mr. Dew, "whether it is regarded by Mr. Lloyd George's friends as rank blasphemy to suggest that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is capable of saying anything nonsensical, but at any rate immediately upon Mrs. Watson using those words her hat was pulled off, a man then put his arm round her waist, squeezed her very hard and hurt her; she received punches on the back, and a man put his hand underneath her skirts and pinched her thighs. Her outer and under clothes were pulled to pieces.

Mr. Davies (interrupting): Unless my friend is going to bring these charges home to the defendant I submit he is not entitled to prejudice the case by speaking generally of what took place on that occasion.

Mr. Dew: I am giving you a narrative leading up to what actually occurred.

Mr. Davies: And I say he is not entitled to do it.

Mr. Dew: I am going to prove this against the defendant. That was the sort of treatment to which Mrs. Watson was being subjected (Mr. Dew continued) when Police Constable Pritchard went to her assistance. Both this officer and other witnesses would prove that Evans dragged her by the hair of the head, struck her, and was guilty of other wrong treatment of the lady. A description given of the defendant's conduct was that he was "perfectly mad." He threatened Pritchard. Mr. Dew then glanced towards Evans and remarked: "The defendant smiles. He may think it a good joke."

The Defendant (with indignation): I am not doing anything of the kind.

Mr. Dew: Pardon me, but all the time I have been opening this case you have been smiling. You may think it a good thing to do. Proceeding, Mr. Dew said if he proved what he had stated he would ask their Worships to mark their sense of the seriousness of the accused's conduct. He could conceive nothing more violent or brutal than holding a woman by the hair of her head, thumping her back, and getting hold of her legs.

Mrs. Watson's Evidence

Mrs. Watson then gave evidence. She said, in reply to Mr. Dew, that she had been working for over six years for the woman suffrage cause, which was very dear to her. She was at the meeting at Llanystumdwy, and when Mr. Lloyd George said that by observations made by suffragettes they were doing their cause harm she said, "Nonsense, we are not." At once (she continued) someone put his arm round my waist, and I was kicked in the back and on my legs and feet. A constable tried to get me away, and while that was happening someone put a hand on my legs. I had my coat torn to rags and my underclothes torn to shreds.

A large coat worn by Mrs. Watson on the occasion was then shown by the Bench. It was very considerably torn. Some of her underclothing, ripped almost to shreds, was also produced.

Continuing, Mrs. Watson said that since this treatment she had suffered from nervous shock, and her body and legs were bruised. She could not identify the person who had inflicted the injuries.

In cross-examination by Mr. Davies, Mrs. Watson denied that she acted in concert with others in the disturbance; she recognised that troubles were likely to occur in such circumstances as these. She knew that they got ill-treatment at the meetings addressed by Cabinet Ministers.

Mr. Davies: You look for trouble. Indeed, you court it.

The Witness: I do not think we court it at all.

You want to direct public attention to your movement, and therefore you go to those meetings?

We go to those meetings because it is the only chance we have of getting near the Cabinet Ministers at all, and if we did not go votes for women would never be heard of.

Do you mean to suggest that the mere ejaculation of the words "Votes for women" is likely to have any influence?

We must not let it be forgotten that we intend to have the franchise granted us.

A Magistrate: But this does not justify violence.

Police-Constable Pritchard then stated that he saw Evans pull Mrs. Watson's hair while the witness was endeavouring to get her away. He tried to pull her back by the hair of her head. He also thumped her on the back. He also caught hold of her by the leg as the witness was endeavouring to assist her over the rope of the enclosure. His conduct was very brutal: he seemed quite mad. Later on Evans accused the witness of trying to strangle him and threatened to fight him.

Mr. Davies: Do you know that questions have been asked in the House of Commons about this matter, and that the reply of the Home Secretary was that the police were unable to identify the parties?—Yes.

Mr. Davies: And notwithstanding that you say you reported to your superior officer about what you allege the defendant had done?—I told him in conversation. I did not make an entry at the time because I could remember what had happened. The lady at first gave her name as Mrs. Carmichael. I did not hear the defendant say that this lady's leg had got entangled in the rope and that he merely tried to loose her leg. I did not see him do that, but he might have done so.

Answering Mr. Dew, the witness said: As far as I am concerned I have nothing to do with any report to the Home Secretary. I was never asked to report before the question had been asked in the House.

Mrs. Watson, recalled, said she gave a false name for family reasons. In reply to Mr. Davies, she said that proceedings ought to have been taken in many of these cases before. She gave an incorrect name and had no idea that action would have been taken now. She could not take proceedings herself because she could not identify her assailants.

Evidence was given by John Jones, a member of the Portmadoc Ambulance Brigade, who corroborated the police as to Evans having pulled the lady's hair. John Brown, of High Street, Portmadoc, gave similar testimony. He did not know, he said, whether the lady's leg had got fixed in the barricade, but the defendant did not look as if he was helping her. Owen Males, of Pwllheli, was also called in corroboration. It was quite true, he said, that Mrs. Watson's foot was caught in the barricade as she was being taken away from the meeting. There was a seething mass of people, and he did not know what they were excited about.

The Defence

Mr. Davies, addressing the court in defence, said questions had been asked in the House on this subject, and it was common knowledge that the reason why proceedings were not taken was that the police had been entirely unable to identify the culprit.

Mr. Dew: You don't bind us to the accuracy of any statement made in Parliament?

Mr. Davies: The only observation I have to make upon that is this. My friend said in his grandiloquent way that he appeared for the Crown, the law, and the public peace. If that means anything, it means that he is armed here to-day with authority from high quarters, and having stated that he wants to throw over those high quarters and say that any answer given in Parliament is of no consequence whatever. The obvious comment to be made on the evidence of Constable Pritchard (Mr. Davies said) was that, if correct, he had sufficient evidence to prove the charge at the time, and it was his duty to charge the defendant; but he was bound to point out that the police were not satisfied, then, that this evidence was evidence which existed in fact. He was not going to say this evidence had been deliberately manufactured for the purpose of the case that day, but Pritchard admitted that he took no note of what occurred at the time, and that when he subsequently wrote his report it was purely from memory In the week following the event there were letters and leading articles in the press and every conceivable suggestion made as to what had transpired, and did the magistrates think it was in human nature that the police constable had not read those things? They had it from one of the witnesses for the prosecution that the lady's leg caught in the barricade, and he submitted it was a matter of impossibility that in a crowd of that kind anyone could bring home the charge to any particular individual of pulling the hair and thumping in the back. The suggestion that Evans was pulling the lady's hair with both hands at the time that he was holding a stick was preposterous. These ladies thought they could do anything they liked—that they could fire letter-boxes, throw dynamite into public theatres, and endanger the lives of Cabinet Ministers, and when anybody touched them with a long pole it became a great act of injustice. The constable was piqued because of what happened between him and Evans, and that influenced his mental outlook. There had been a campaign engineered by the women's union, with the result that pressure had been brought to bear to institute this prosecution from high quarters.

The defendant then entered the witness-box, and absolutely denied that he pulled Mrs. Watson's hair. He said he did not thump her on the back or pinch her legs. He extricated her leg from the barricade as she was being taken away. Up to the time Mrs. Watson reached the barricade he never touched her. Her hair was not in a bad condition at all considering that she had been in such a terrible crowd.

Mr. Dew: Do you agree that the suffragists deserve all they get in going to meetings in these circumstances?—I reserve my views to myself.

Further questioned, the defendant said he believed the evidence of the constable had been "cooked" because of the disagreement that had taken place between them. Males he knew to be a gossip. He did not know what caused the other men to swear as they had done, because he did not know anything about them. When he helped to lift the lady over the barricade she bit his finger.

Mr. Dew: It is more natural that you should get your finger bit in attacking a person than in helping her.

The Defendant: You say so.

Edward Edwards, of Sand Street, Pwllheli, and William Lloyd Jones, of Pwllheli, both stated that the defendant did not commit the offence alleged against him.

The Magistrates' Decision

The magistrates retired for about ten minutes to consider their decision, and upon returning into Court the Chairman said the Bench considered there was some doubt about Evans being the person who committed the offence, and a majority of them were in favour of the case being dismissed. Each side must pay its own costs. The charge was accordingly dismissed.

A charge against Evans for interfering with the police in the execution of their duty was also dismissed.

A PERSONAL IMPRESSION

From the Chief Witness for the Prosecution

"You never had justice given to you yesterday."

These were the last words I heard as my train steamed out of Pwllheli, the day after the case was heard against Ben Evans, the young solicitor's clerk. They were said to me by a Pwllheli man who had been present in Court, and it would have been impossible to accuse him of exaggeration. I had come away with the same impression—that injustice had been once more shown to a voteless woman, and that it was well-nigh useless for voteless women to hope for justice from their political opponents. Again and again was I told, while at Pwllheli, that they would not dare to convict a man known to be at the head of a gang of young hooligans, who were sworn to the service of Mr. Lloyd George, and had threatened to wreck the forthcoming Unionist gathering if their leader were found guilty — and told, moreover, that many local inhabitants were ready and willing to give evidence against him, but dare not for fear of the consequences to themselves and their families. I tell these things as they were told to me, and, knowing how the unanimous evidence of the witnesses for the prosecution had been set aside in favour of the evidence of various people whose accounts by no means always tallied, I can only say that I find it difficult to disbelieve my informants in the matter.

No Women Admitted

The Court was crowded to suffocation, and outside, it was said, were hundreds who could not obtain admittance. The order was given, "No women admitted," and I, wanting the presence of women as never before in my life, found myself alone in a Court of men. Not for long, however, for soon after I heard a woman's voice, brave and insistent, at the door.

"This is a public place," she was saying, "and I insist upon going in. That is a comrade of mine in the Cause."

Apparently, she did not insist in vain, for later, when the magistrates retired, she came forward to shake me by the hand, being indeed a member from the Suffragist ranks. And I was glad to have her there, for the ordeal was a terrible one. It was terrible to go through the sickening details once more of that day of savagery at Llanystumdwy; to have to display my torn clothes to the gaze of a crowd of men; to hear the evidence on my behalf, so clearly given, discredited, and through it all one's outraged sense of justice made itself felt, for it seemed to me—and I cannot believe I was wrong—that every pressure was put upon me to trap me into making admissions that would not have been true, and were calculated to prejudice my case, while, on the other hand, any attempt I made to counteract a false impression given by those who appeared for the defence was ruled out of order.

A Slander Accepted

For instance, I was never allowed an opportunity of denying the defendant's statement that I bit his finger, and was silenced when I attempted to make one for myself. And no militant Suffragist could have failed to note how police evidence which has been considered incontrovertible again and again on former occasions when a Suffragette was in the dock, was dismissed as negligible when it was given in favour of a Suffragette.

And so it went on for four hours; and I was not even allowed to wait for the verdict, so anxious were the police to get me away to a place of safety—I suppose in case the defendant had been found guilty and his friends had again wished to show their enthusiasm for Liberalism by ill-treating a woman in ways too shameful to be discussed in the presence of women.

A man came up to me afterwards and congratulated me on the clear and able way in which my evidence was given. I told him that when one has nothing but the truth to tell, there is only one way in which evidence can be given.

Welsh Standard of Conduct

I will conclude my account with a scrap of dialogue between two little schoolgirls, which was overheard in Welsh and translated for my benefit. It seems to me to illustrate the queer jumble of moral, political, and religious standards that govern the conduct of Mr. Lloyd George's supporters in Llanstumdwy:

First Little Girl: "Mr. Lloyd George ought to be ashamed of himself for allowing men to ill-treat Suffragettes as they did at Llanystumdwy."

Second Little Girl: "My dada says David Lloyd George comes next to Jesus, and women are wicked creatures to go to a meeting and upset him!"

IN THE HOUSE

In the House of Commons on Tuesday, November 25, Mr. Harold Smith asked the Home Secretary if he would lay upon the Table of the House a verbatim report of the evidence given in the recent proceedings in connection with the disturbances at Llanystumdwy?

Mr. McKenna: There is no official report of the evidence which could be laid before the House; but the hon. Member will find a very full newspaper report in the *Cambria News* of November 22.

Mr. H. Smith: May I ask whether the police authorities have not a report of the proceedings?

Mr. McKenna: I have inquired on that point, and I understand they have no report which is as full as that contained in the *Cambria News*.

Mr. King: Will a copy of this paper be put in the Library?

[There is evidently an error here, as the *Cambria News* of November 22 contains no reference to the case.]

A SCOTCH VIEW

The brutal conduct of the crowd of gallant and chivalrous Welshmen . . . had its sequel yesterday in the courts. The reports of what happened when some "Votes for Women!" cries interrupted the sacred thread of the Chancellor's speech were such as to leave no doubt that the conduct of the crowd was brutal in the extreme. It is true that only a few of those present actually assailed the unfortunate women, but the whole assemblage must share the guilt of complicity, for, according to the newspaper accounts at the time, no hand was raised to protect the women. The evidence yesterday at the court case against a young man—a solicitor's clerk, by the way—fully substantiated the first narratives of this disgraceful episode. But nothing came of the prosecution, for there was the usual conflict with regard to the identity of the accused. . . . The magistrates' decision was received both inside and outside of the court with tumultuous applause. In all the circumstances, restraint would have better become the populace. Though the accused man was declared to be innocent of the charge, something, surely, was due to the felings of the lady who was the unfortunate victim of the Welsh crowd's atrocities.—**The Glasgow Evening Citizen.**

MISS MARGARET KER'S CASE

Three Months in the Second Division

Miss Margaret Louise Ker, a student of Liverpool University and the daughter of Dr. Alice Ker, of Birkenhead, surrendered to her bail before Mr. Justice Coleridge at the Manchester Assizes on Friday, November 22, on a charge of placing a certain substance in a Post Office letter-box at Liverpool on October 28. The case, it will be remembered, came before the Liverpool Stipendiary on November 5.

Miss Ker, who was accompanied by her mother, appeared with her arm swathed in bandages. She was represented by Mr. H. Lindon Riley, upon whose advice she pleaded guilty.

Mr. Wooll, for the prosecution, pointed out that Miss Ker had pleaded guilty to the indictment charging her with an offence against Section 61 of the Post Office Act, 1908. She had been caught *flagrante delicto* in the most literal meaning of that expression, as smoke was issuing from the pillar-box at the time of her arrest. It seemed to exceed the legitimate bounds of coincidence that three other attempts were made on the same night to fire three other Post Office letter-boxes, one within a hundred yards of the one in James Street. Mr. Wooll added that more injury seemed to have been done to Miss Ker, whose hands were burnt, than had been done to the contents of the letter-box.

The Conspiracy Trial Recalled

On behalf of Miss Ker, Mr. Lindon Riley reminded Mr. Justice Coleridge that only six months ago that day he had concluded the hearing of the great trial at the Old Bailey, at which Mrs. Pankhurst and Mr. Pethick Lawrence, and the distinguished counsel who appeared for Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, stated at great length what the history and importance of the Suffragist movement had been, and what were the circumstances under which the militant form of that movement was evolved. The aims and objects then stated were the aims and objects which animated Miss Ker in what she did on the night of October 28.

After a reference to the history of the movement, Mr. Riley reminded the Court of the taunt of Mr. Hobhouse on February 16, that there had not been, in the Woman Suffrage agitation, the kind of popular uprising that accounted for Nottingham Castle in 1832, or Hyde Park railings in 1867, and proceeded to say that the immediate, as distinguished from the historical, position was that Parliament was discussing ad nauseum, and as his client thought ad eternum, Bills for the Reform of so-called inequalities, which the Suffragists regarded as the small dust of the balance, compared with the fundamental injustice of the inequality of sex; they were settling the political rights of half the population of our islands, and so depriving the female half of the direct influence which, they were justified in assuming, would be exercised on the right side of those questions of regeneration and reform, the victims of the neglect of which, as his lordship's experience must tell him, were largely women and children.

Miss Ker had spent a considerable portion of her leisure in the sale of Suffragist literature, and had joined in three demonstrations in London, not because, as Mr. Hobhouse had suggested, somebody else's funds were equal to the emergency—she went at her own expense—but because she had seen her mother, a lady of culture and distinguished attainments, imprisoned for the cause, and she had determined to do what she herself could to strike a blow.

"Ringing the Chapel Bell"

"Her view," observed Mr. Riley, "was that the path which she was taking was described in the words of Mr. Gladstone as 'the ringing of the chapel bell.' There was something to which she desired to call the attention of her parish, and she believed, and I ask your lordship to believe, that in doing what she did she was doing a good service. Miss Ker, he said, was an example of the force of heredity. Her mother, Dr. Alice Ker, was one of the pioneers in the work of opening the medical schools of this country to women, and she had been a pioneer spirit in all good causes open, or capable of being opened, to women. Dr. Alice Ker was herself connected with the cause which her daughter represented that day, and her daughter was only following her mother's example in her activity on behalf of other women. Miss Ker was a student in Liverpool University enjoying, as a result of open competition, a scholarship, and from her own town of Birkenhead a grant of £30 a year.

In doing what she did, she suffered an injury to her hand which, he was told, would permanently disfigure it. Possibly by 1915, when she would have finished her course, votes for women would be an accomplished fact, and there would be no need thereafter for the sort of sacrifice that those women had made.

Sir Alfred Dale, Vice-Chancellor of Liverpool University, stated that Miss Ker had secured the scholarship and grant referred to. She had been sent to the University from a good school, and with a good record. That record she had maintained throughout the period of her University career up to now, and they had every hope that if she was able to complete her course she would graduate in an honours course in due time.

In passing judgment, Mr. Justice Coleridge, after pointing out the gravity of Miss Ker's action, and the possible serious results to persons whose correspondence might be damaged, said: "I suppose it would be only wasting my breath to point out to you that such conduct is certain to exasperate all classes, and to range them in hostility to any possible sympathy with your view." His duty was to protect the public and to enforce the law, and, regardless of all else, he must perform it. She must be imprisoned in the second division for three months.

Mr. Riley asked, with a view to enabling Miss Ker to continue her studies, if his lordship would not make it imprisonment in the first division.

The request was refused.

MORE PILLAR BOXES

Several more "pillar-box" outrages by supposed suffragettes have taken place at Cardiff during the last few days. Postmen in the central district are said to have found a number of letters and packages damped by some sort of liquid which flowed from a bottle. A strict watch is being kept. Similar cases are reported from Newport, where in pillar-boxes at Bridge Street and Havelock Street envelopes were discovered containing uncorked bottles of some fluid resembling permanganate of potash solution. The addresses of several letters had been somewhat obliterated, but the Post Office officials were able to decipher them and forward them. The police are making inquiries.

IRISH PRISONERS RELEASED

Mrs. K. Emerson and Mrs. Connery, the two members of the Irish Women's Franchise League, were released on Wednesday in last week. They were sentenced in the Police Court by Mr. Macinerney, K.C., to a fortnight's imprisonment in the Third Division in default of paying a fine of £1 each and 12s. 6d. compensation for the breaking of glass in the Custom House windows. They declined to pay the fine or compensation, and were consequently arrested and sent, without further trial, to Mountjoy Prison. The fines and compensation were paid, but as it was not paid at once, the women were in prison long enough to secure all the privileges they desired by means of a hunger-strike.

In a letter to the *Irish Independent*, Mrs. Connery and Mrs. Emerson write:—

Sir,—Kindly allow us to enter an emphatic protest against the paying of the fines imposed on us for the recent breaking of Government glass. We wish it to be expressly understood that the fines were paid without our knowledge or consent, and wholly against our will, as we have no intention either now or at any future time to pay Government fines.

We were discharged yesterday (Wednesday) morning from Mountjoy Prison on being informed that our fines had been paid. Since the I.W.F.L. has ascertained that the fines had been anonymously paid by a person officially connected with Dublin Castle, we desire to characterise the whole proceeding as an unwarrantable interference with our affairs.

For the benefit of the public we would like briefly to state one or two facts concerning our stay in Mountjoy. In the first place, immediately the prison gates closed upon us we were treated as common criminals. All our personal belongings were taken from us, we were separately locked into a small room with three prison matrons, and requested to undress ourselves in order to be "searched." This we indignantly refused to do. Our clothes were then removed by force, and we were subjected to this degrading process.

We immediately resolved to adopt the hunger-strike, and accordingly we refused the criminal diet of brown bread and "skilly." We also refused exercise and the prison work. This continued from Monday afternoon till about two o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, when we were informed that we were transferred to the first division by the Prisons Board pending the decision of the Lord Lieutenant.

This was accordingly done, so that we had availed ourselves of the privileges conferred on first-class misdemeanants—viz., to write letters, receive a visit from a friend, have food sent in from outside, &c.—before learning the unwelcome news that our fines had been paid, and we left prison rejoicing in the fact that we had fought and won, and by adopting a policy of passive resistance we had brought the Government to terms within twenty-four hours of our arrest.

MISS ISABEL IRVING RELEASED

We are very glad to note that Miss Isabel Irving, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment at Newington Sessions on November 20 for breaking windows in New Bond Street, on the night of November 5, as a protest against the rejection of Mr. Philip Snowden's amendment to include Irish women in the Home Rule Bill, has been released from Holloway Prison. Miss Irving carried out the hunger-strike from Wednesday, November 20 (the date of her sentence) to Monday last, when she was released in a very weak condition. Apparently the authorities feared to resort to forcible feeding, for we understand that no attempt to inflict this torture upon her was made. We await news of Miss Irving's fellow-prisoner, Miss Ethel Slade, who was on the same day sentenced to four months' for a similar cause.

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MORE MILITANCY

MR. JOHN BURNS "MISSING"

Was it just a coincidence, or a sense of humour, that caused a paragraph under the above heading to be placed, in Saturday's *Evening News*, immediately after the story of Mr. Asquith's ignoble ruses to escape from the Suffragettes? There have been rumours of a kidnapped Cabinet Minister before now, and the news that "Mr. Burns was nowhere to be found" must have been—to his friends—somewhat disquieting. But the story ends: "Mr. Burns was eventually found chatting with Lord Rosebery in the grand quadrangle of Windsor Castle." So it was not the Suffragettes this time.

MR. CHURCHILL BOO'D

In an account of the first night of Mr. Galsworthy's play, "The Eldest Son," the *Daily Sketch* says:—

Irene McLeod, as the rebellious Dot . . . brought the house down when she spoke of Bill's future. In tones of withering contempt she pointed out how he would settle down like his father and go into Parliament. "That is what he will come to if he stays here," she said. Perhaps Miss McLeod did not know that the First Lord of the Admiralty was within a few yards of her. But the house did, and it shrieked and held its sides. Mr. Churchill leaned back in his box and laughed heartily, while his wife poked fun at him, and Mrs. Cornwallis-West also helped to extinguish her brilliant son.

From another source we learn that as Mr. Churchill left the theatre he was boo'd by suffragists.

MR. J. R. MACDONALD

Militant Suffragists, as the *Daily Chronicle* reminds its readers, have now turned their attentions to the Labour party, and Mr. Ramsay MacDonald was the victim at Halifax on Sunday last, when there were constant interruptions. There were cries of "Throw them out!" but the chairman said there would be no throwing out there, whatever was said or done. Above the din Mr. MacDonald was heard saying:—

"No attempt to browbeat, no attempt at interruption, is going to have the least influence with me. (Cheers.) They tell us that we are corrupt; that we are there for £400 a year. (A woman's voice, 'So you are!') If that is the sort of intelligence you women are going to bring upon the question, then the longer . . ."

The rest of the sentence could not be heard owing to the noise.

Later there were constant reminders from about half a dozen Suffragists, and Mr. MacDonald then resorted to methods reminiscent of the style of Mr. John Burns and Mr. Lloyd George, remarking: "Don't say anything. Let them talk, if they don't object to the exhibition they are making of themselves, I don't." When Mr. MacDonald asked: "What is the Labour Party going to do in the immediate future?" a woman's voice answered: "Give votes to women!" Mr. MacDonald: For the first time I agree with you. Another voice: Then turn the Government out! Mr. MacDonald: Now, my dear friends, don't make fools of yourselves.

During the outburst that followed this gallant remark, Mr. MacDonald called above the din, "There are a number of women who call themselves women emancipators who really don't want the vote at all."

"It's an untruth!" "Retract!" shouted a large number of women, but Mr. MacDonald apparently refused to retract.

NO VOTE, NO RATE

A woman of independent means, Miss Harries, residing at Portfield, near Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, has, says the *Manchester Courier*, successfully evaded all attempts to make her pay local rates. No one has yet succeeded in serving either a demand note or a summons on her. She barricades herself in her house, and only emerges at night. The Town Clerk stated at the last meeting of the Haverfordwest Town Council that he had tried many devices to get documents delivered at the house, but without success. The last time he really thought he was going to succeed. He caused the address to be written in a woman's hand, and a private envelope was used. Yet the ruse did not succeed, and to his dismay the packet was returned.

WOMEN DOCTORS FOR CHILDREN

Last Friday the new Women's Hospital for Children at 688, Harrow Road, gave what it called a birthday party, although it was not more than ten months' old, having been opened as recently as February in this year. The hospital is as yet only a humble affair, consisting of two small houses thrown into one; but unimportant as it looks outside, it has already a sound reputation in a neighbourhood as thickly populated with children as any other around London, and the women doctors who run it can scarcely cope with the applicants who present themselves nearly every day in the week. Since February, 2,200 children have been treated there as out-patients, and every effort is now being made to add an in-patients' ward. For, as these doctors tell you if you go there, it goes to their hearts to send away a child who cannot be treated as an out-patient, or to draft on one of those who have been so treated to be cared for by someone else in a general hospital.

Another Disability of Women

Already, the experiment has proved a brilliant success. For it is an experiment, or at all events a new departure in the practice of medicine in this country. It is very generally believed that women have been admitted into the medical profession as the equals of men. That is true only to a limited extent. Prejudice, aided no doubt by the standard of inequality that still prevails between the men and women of other professions, and by the inferior status of women generally in social and political life, still succeeds in keeping the woman doctor out of her own, in more ways than one. We are only concerned here with one of the ways in which this is true, and that is with the inability of the medical women to force open the doors of the children's hospitals. As a student she has access to the children's ward of a general hospital; but as a fully qualified doctor she has no extensive opportunity of studying children's diseases, for there are no women doctors on the staff of any children's hospital, and they are still unable to overcome the prejudice that closes its doors to them.

This fact has driven a group of medical women to open a children's hospital themselves, staffed entirely by women doctors, the object of which is twofold, (1) to provide the children of the poor with medical attendance by women, and (2) to give women doctors the chance of studying children's diseases, a branch of the science for which women are, of course, particularly fitted. And if anybody still thinks that the prejudice against women doctors exists among the poor, let him go down to the Women's Hospital for Children and see how the parents love bringing their children to be treated.

Fathers come as well as mothers; in fact, as Dr. Flora Murray said in her speech made at the "birthday party," it takes much longer to get through with a father than a mother, so much interested is he both in his child's case and in the woman doctor who is ready to hear him talk about it. If any other proof were needed of the popularity of the medical woman among the poor, it is there in the fact that these parents would sooner pay a small fee to the new hospital, poor as they are, than apply for free medical treatment at the infirmary; and their fees already nearly cover the weekly running expenses of drugs, lighting, heating, &c.

Little Future Citizens

And, indeed, as another speaker (Mr. Pollock, Chairman of the New Hospital for Women, founded in the Euston Road by Mrs. Garrett Anderson, M.D., thirty-five years ago) pointed out, there is reason for us all to concern ourselves with the health of these little future citizens of the State. He quoted statistics,, showing that rather over half of the children attending the London elementary schools were medically defective, that 38 per cent. required medical attendance, and, further, that so many lives might be saved by proper medical care early in life that it would be true to say that every year £30,000 is lost to the State because that sum is spent annually in the educating of children who die of tubercular disease before they reach the age at which they can become useful citizens of the State. And in the face of statistics like these, women doctors are obliged to found a children's hospital for themselves if they wish to make a study of children's diseases!

THE INCONSISTENT "ANTI"

A circular, signed by Lord Curzon, the President of the Royal Geographical Society, has just been sent round to the Fellows on behalf of the Council, announcing that the latter body has decided "to recommend at a special general meeting, to be held on January 15, 1913, that women be admitted as Fellows of the Society on the same footing as men." It is now twenty years since a great controversy was aroused by the same proposition, and it is, to say the least of it, interesting to find the idea has now been fathered by one who thinks women are unfitted to put a cross on a Parliamentary ballot-paper!

WHY NOT V.C.'S FOR WOMEN?

Men have rightly been rewarded with the Victoria Cross, again and again, for risking their own lives to save those of their fellows. Why is no honour of the kind ever conferred on the women who prove that in the matter of heroic self-sacrifice they are on an equality with men? Take the instance of Miss Alt, the grey-haired old heroine who, hearing of the terrible distress and loss of life in the cholera camp at San Stefano, has gone down among the soldiers there, and is working night and day to save life and reduce the sum of human suffering that is the inevitable consequence of war. Many years ago, Miss Alt, who is a Swiss trained nurse, went out to Turkey in that capacity. Since then she has been a governess in Turkish families; and now, at an advanced age, she goes to risk her life and to spend her hardly earned savings in order to save the lives of others. Could the V.C. be given to a better recipient?

A Woman Skipper

The courage of woman is, of course, never called in question; but it is astonishing how often it goes unrewarded, presumably because physical bravery is considered to be men's business, and not women's. Almost unnoticed, for instance, Mrs. George Orne, the only woman skipper on the Atlantic Coast, recently brought her leaking schooner, after a collision in the fog off Cape Cod, safely into Boston Harbour. For a whole night and day she stuck to the wheel, and was backed up in her determination to bring her crew and her ship into port, in the face of real peril and immense difficulties, by her chief mate, her daughter Ethel. How absurd it is to say that any occupation can be closed arbitrarily to women!

POLICEWOMEN

An interesting petition has just been presented to the Mayor and Council of San Antonio, Texas, by six women of wealth and position, asking for permission to join the police force. Their request is framed in the most practical way possible, for they have mentioned the particular "beats" on which they consider women policemen could be most usefully employed, and they add that they could get 10,000 signatures from women to back up their petition. We have no doubt they could; and, knowing how the state of our streets over here demands the presence of women as policemen, we can only express our warm hope that the enterprising women of San Antonio will achieve their end without delay.

THE ANTI-SUFFRAGE PARADOX

Last Monday evening the Anti-Suffragists met in Caxton Hall to demonstrate their unfitness for the Parliamentary vote by showing how nicely they could use the municipal vote. They passed a resolution declaring that—

"the expansion and development of women's work in local government affords the best outlet for women's public activities, and is the true alternative to the demand for the Parliamentary suffrage."

And they said, or at least one of them did, that "if a woman only behaved as a lady, and exercised her natural charm, she soon obtained an extraordinary control over men." How much safer for the Empire, one would have thought, to let her exercise a mere vote! It was also said that "if women behaved like dignified women instead of hooligans, what a power they might attain over men"! Also, that if a woman guardian knew her business, "she could turn the men on the board round her finger." In effect, what these deprecating ladies and their men supporters said amounted to this: "Mention the Parliamentary vote, and we are poor weak women; but give us municipal power, and we're just terrors!"

WELSH PUBLIC BODIES AND WOMAN SUFFRAGE

In view of recent events in Wales it is instructive to read the following list, published in the *Rhyl Record* last Saturday, of public bodies in North Wales which have passed resolutions in favour of Women's Suffrage:—Bangor Town Council, Pwllheli Town Council; the Urban District Councils of Llandudno, Penmaenmawr, Llanfairfechan, Llangollen, Bethesda, Portmadoc, and Dolgelly; also the County Liberal Associations of North Carnarvonshire, South Carnarvonshire, Merionethshire, Bangor, Towyn, Pwllheli, Bala, Carnarvon; and the Women's Liberal Associations of Bangor, Carnarvon, Penmaenmawr, and Pwllheli.

THE LATE MRS. MORRISSEY

We hear with much regret of the death of Mrs. Morrissey, an ardent Liverpool worker for the raising of the status of women, and the wife of a former Councillor. A friend writes of her:—

"Her greatest devotion was given to the cause of her own sex, whom she sought to establish in human equality and freedom. Here the courage of our comrade reached the loftiest pitch. The martyrdom of two imprisonments could not grieve her spirit, and these were endured in the earlier days of the woman's movement, when the number of those who dared and endured was very small."

Our sympathy and that of our readers goes out to Mrs. Morrissey's relatives and friends in their great loss.

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Smartly and well-cut Tailored **Costume** in serviceable Winter Coatings. High-waisted Coat, lined with good quality Serge Silk. Fashionable Skirt with Panel Front and Pleated Back. In Purple, Grey, Navy Blue, Saxe, etc. No extra charge for special measures.

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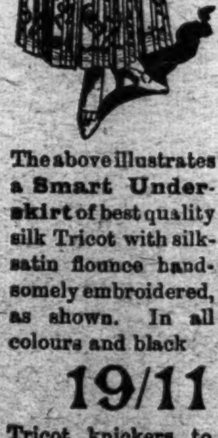

A 16/11 DRESSING GOWN FOR 12/11.

Ladies' **Lamb's-wool Dressing Gown**, trimmed with wide galon of cashmere effect on cuffs and collar, finished with wool girdle. Stocked in helio, sky, pink, crimson, saxe, old rose, and Navy. Special value **12/11**

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Price **8/11**

OUR POST BOX

THE FELLOWSHIP.

Dear Mrs. Lawrence,—I am sending you my money that I saved up for christmas, and I thought I would give it you because I want to help in the suffrge.

I shall get some more money for christmas because you see I don't like sleping in the dark, so I have night lights, but mother sayes that I can't be a sufraget if I have night lights, so Mother sayes if I go without night lights she will give me a penny.—(BARBARA.)

I have not known till now what time I should have to spare. I am a teacher, and my time is well filled. I can sell VOTES FOR WOMEN in Sheffield on Saturday afternoons, except once in six weeks, when I am on duty. Will you send me at first one dozen copies each week, beginning with the number for November 9?—(N. R.)

This is a small village, and there is no newsagent's shop for exhibiting posters, but I have commenced a house to house visitation, to induce a few more women to order copies of your paper, and shall lend copies of my own. In this way I hope to do a little work amidst a very unenlightened community.—(K. N. C.)

Will you kindly enrol me among the members of the VOTES FOR WOMEN Fellowship? I am selling twenty VOTES every week, and hope to increase the number as time goes on.—(M. E. P.)

MR. BUXTON AT POPLAR.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Editors,—With reference to the interruption of Mr. Buxton at the prize-giving at the L.C.C. Boys' and Girls' Schools at Poplar, may I say that Dr. Burnett, the head master, and his wife are strong suffragists, and were much distressed at the suggestion contained in your report that the girls were not treated fairly. Dr. Burnett has worked hard since his appointment to put the girls on a level with the boys in every way, but this is, of course, not to be accomplished at once. If more mention was made of the boys than of the girls, it was because it chanced that the boys had distinguished themselves unusually this year. The women teachers at the school are, it appears, up in arms in defence of Dr. Burnett, who, however, admits that appearances were against him.—Yours, &c.,

E. JACOBS.

Feltham House, Loughton, Nov. 21.

WHO ARE THE DISHONEST POLITICIANS?

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Sir,—Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, M.P., in his speech at Halifax, truly said that:

"Men who did NOT believe in women's suffrage and yet voted for it in order to turn the Government out were dishonest politicians."

But surely the converse of this statement is also equally true, namely, men (especially *Independent* Labour Party men) who DO believe in women's suffrage and yet do NOT vote for or insist on having it for fear of turning the Government out, are also dishonest politicians?

There is a large majority of M.P.'s who are pledged to women's suffrage. If these men are all honest politicians, how is it that when this important question comes up for discussion in the House it is defeated?

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald is certainly a very reasonable politician, but, if I may be permitted to slightly transpose one of G. B. S.'s epigrams, I would remind your readers that—

"The reasonable Labour M.P. (like MacDonald) adapts himself to his parliamentary environment; the unreasonable Labour M.P. (like Lansbury) persists in attempting to adapt his parliamentary environment to himself. Therefore all progress in Parliament depends on the unreasonable Labour M.P."

—Yours faithfully, J. R. CRIPPS.

"Arcana," Worthing.

CHILDREN'S WELFARE EXHIBITION.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Editors,—Your criticism of the competitions in the forthcoming Children's Welfare Exhibition does not, I think, do justice to the promoters. It is true that in Class B, D, and E the prizes offered to boys are of greater value than in the case of girls, but you omit all mention of the fact that a silver shield of the value of £25 is offered for a competition in Swedish gymnastics amongst girls' schools. This finds no counterpart in the boys' competitions.

Particular care has been taken that the aggregate value of the prizes (£100) be the same for both sexes; the apparent discrepancy is a matter of apportionment only, and the girls have, I think, no cause for complaint in this respect.—Yours,

S. CELIA SPARGER.

(Manager Swedish Gymnastic Competition, Member W.S.P.U.)

[We are glad to print our correspondent's letter, but must draw her attention to the fact that our criticism was directed against the dual standard set up for boys and girls in the competitions themselves, which, in our opinion, encourages the idea that even in the schoolroom feminine achievement is on a lower scale than masculine achievement. We do not see how, merely by giving an extra prize for something else, the promoters of the exhibition can justify their action in offering a lower prize to a girl than to a boy of the same age in the same class of competition. To give doles instead of even-handed justice has from time immemorial been the method of men in their dealings with women.—Editors, VOTES FOR WOMEN.]

◆

THE MEN'S SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS

We have received letters from Captain C. M. Gonne, R.A., and from Mr. Frank Witty, stating that they have retired from the committee of the above society, and have no longer any connection with the society. Mr. A. W. G. Jamrach has also written to us to the same effect, adding to these resignations the names of Lieutenant Cather and Mr. Wyndham Hart. He states in his letter that a general meeting of the Men's Society for Women's Rights will shortly be held, at which the election of officers for the coming year will take place.

◆

PRESS COMMENTS ON THE RESULT AT BOW AND BROMLEY

Bow and Bromley has not risen to the occasion. . . . Liberals and Tories combined have defeated Labour's candidate. So be it. It is far better to have lost than to have won on Liberal votes. Every "sympathetic" vote is a weakness; unless the workers appreciate fully the issues they are voting on, the principles they are voting for, it is better to be without their votes. Lansbury made the issue clear so far as he was concerned; his enemies were successful in confusing the issue. We have more respect for Lansbury at the bottom of the poll, uncompromising, than for Lansbury at the top of the poll by a sacrifice of principle.—**Daily Herald.**

As it was, he received a few hundred Liberal votes. It seems, however, as if an equal number of Liberals voted for Mr. Blair—an unlooked-for circumstance which was enough to settle Mr. Lansbury's pretensions at once. There are probably 2,000 Liberals in Bow and Bromley. The polling shows conclusively that more than half of them followed the advice of their local leaders and abstained from voting. This is a very large proportion, and it accounts to a great extent for the smallness of the total poll.—**The Times.**

The poll was smaller than two years ago, and clearly, while many Liberals must have refrained from voting, many others must have transferred their votes to the Unionist. This is perhaps not surprising, for Mr. Lansbury did not make it easy for Liberals to support him; but though not surprising we think it very regrettable. . . . We have never professed to be able to understand what political moral Mr. Lansbury meant his resignation to teach, and therefore we do not know what moral to draw from the result. That the election was decided upon the suffrage question we should not care to believe, and do not believe. The Suffragists did their best to make it their election, but to convert a by-election into a referendum on a single issue is a feat almost beyond the wit of an individual. The suffrage stands now where it did before, and its claim upon the loyalty of democrats remains unaffected. . . .

There were large crowds waiting to hear the result in the Bow Road, mainly Mr. Lansbury's adherents; and consequently the result, when it was announced, evoked little enthusiasm.

Mr. Blair's committee rooms, which were almost opposite Bromley Public Hall, lighted blue flares, and enthusiastic Tories climbed railings and tried their best to get the crowds to cheer. Very little happened. A more despondent victory has been rarely witnessed or recorded. The police, assembled in considerable force, had nothing to do, and the crowds dispersed almost silently in the wet.

It was noticeable that a number of local Liberals, gathered outside the hall, cheered the result lustily—not, of course, Mr. Blair's success, but Mr. Lansbury's defeat. —**Daily News.**

The defeat of Mr. Lansbury deprives the House of Commons of a politician whose courage and transparent honesty were always admired, even by those who differed from his judgment.—**Daily Chronicle.**

A MEDICAL REVOLUTION.

Remarkable New Medicine Supplied to Royalty.

STARTLING CURES BY FAMOUS SCIENTISTS.

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Already Osogen is used in the Royal Household Foremost physicians both here and on the Continent are prescribing it to the exclusion of the older remedies, so that whilst the announcement of its discovery is still fresh in the public mind, the new remedy has created a veritable medical revolution.

Famous Doctors' Opinions.

One of the most famous of the world's medical analysts, Dr. G. M. Board, A.M., M.D., says of this combination:—

"By thus combining the two elements (serum and glycero-phosphates) there is produced a therapeutical agent far superior to any one of the constituents when used alone."

Another eminent authority, Professor Augustus Caille, M.D. (consultant to four leading German Hospitals) says of the vegetable part of Osogen: *"The glycero-phosphates are the best modern remedy for nervous fatigue."*

A host of well-known doctors tested Osogen and its separate elements with results that show it to be a remarkable new force with which to combat disease. Professors Fremy and Suzor, of St. Petersburg, Professors Hubbenet and Ursino, of Berlin, and Professor Mariett, of Vienna, are among those who found these elements to be effective in *Anæmia, Influenza, Neurasthenia, and Nervous Disorders, including Nervous Dyspepsia, Debility, Lost Vitality, and Wasting Diseases.*

Osogen is remarkably effective in overcoming the following symptoms:

Lassitude. **Weak Memory.**
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General Weakness. **"Run down feeling."**

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VOTES FOR WOMEN IN SOUTH AFRICA

My friend, Miss Newcomb, and I arrived in Cape Town on October 2, and since then have spoken at a great many meetings in the cause of Women Suffrage, which we, as enfranchised women of Australia, have very much at heart. There are certain obvious resemblances between this country and the great island continent, resemblances which make us very hopeful. The absence of deep-rooted prejudice, the special stumbling block of progress in the older countries of the world, and the consciousness of the civilising and humanising influence of women in social life, make for the probable success of the cause in South Africa.

I left Cape Town on October 15, and on Thursday, October 17, I landed at Port Elizabeth, where I spoke to a large and influential audience at the Town Hall, and gave them a review of the advantages gained by the woman's vote in Australia. Some of the leading men in the town were present, and a popular churchman, member of the Church Suffrage League, corroborated my statements and supported my conclusions. In this town, as elsewhere, although I met with many women who were ardent supporters of the Suffrage cause, I found large numbers of my own sex either apathetic or hostile, and I felt keenly the necessity for stimulating and rousing the women there if their enfranchisement is to follow.

What is Thought of Militancy

I had only a few hours at Durban, but I met the Committee of the Durban branch of the Women's Enfranchisement Association of the Union of South Africa. They were all most interested in the condition of affairs in England, and, for the most part, in deep sympathy with the movement there. The members were so well informed of the recent history of the W.S.P.U., that I found there was little left to tell them, but they listened with lively interest to my account of the effect of the Woman's Vote in Australia. At Pretoria a drawing-room meeting was arranged for me by Miss Hyett, Secretary of the W.E.A.U.S.A., and I found the same eagerly attentive audience. Of course, there were some among them who did not approve of militancy in any form, but that was because they did not understand the colossal evils that had to be combated. When these were pointed out to them, the majority could only wonder at the moderation, instead of condemning the violence, of the militant section of the Suffragists. It is extraordinary how easily the majority of women in the world have been lulled into a false security, and are living in a Fool's Paradise where whatever is, is right; and I fear that any revolution of the world as it is must, of necessity, be a terrible shock to their susceptibilities.

I went on to Johannesburg, where I spoke at a meeting got up by the W.E.A.U.S.A. and the Women's Reform Club. The latter association is not instituted solely for the purpose of obtaining women's suffrage, although that is one of the planks on its platform. It is working for legislation for women and children, and for women's representation on Municipal bodies. I had been asked not to allude to militancy, but I found that there was plenty of sympathy for the women who had fought and suffered in the cause.

On Wednesday, October 30, I spoke at Kimberley Town Hall. The evening was an exceedingly warm one even for Kimberley, which can be hotter than almost any other place I have known, yet the audience was both attentive and interested. Miss Newcomb has already spoken in Cape Province, and we are both invited to various meetings here through November.

Prejudiced by Newspapers

My general impression of the campaign is that we only need missionaries to make fervent converts. The majority of people are utterly misled by the newspapers in their estimate of the movement, so that it is no wonder they are prejudiced against it. At one hotel the landlady expressed astonishment that we were Suffragettes as we looked too gentle to have bitten policemen. The disease of the Suffragette is supposed to be a new and incomprehensible kind of rabies, which limits its activities to members of the force, and an extraordinary mania for destruction, which leads to the smashing of the windows of innocent shopkeepers. I am so convinced, as is my friend, Miss Newcomb, also, that education as to the true nature of the movement is all that is necessary to convert the great mass of South African women into ardent champions of the cause, that we intend, as we have been earnestly entreated to do, to return again to this country after we have visited Australia.

Margaret Hodge.

S. AFRICAN FOLK SONGS

Lovers of folk songs will be interested in the concert announced for January 21 at the Bechstein Hall, when Miss Floriel Florean will sing South African Taal (Boer) Folk Songs, half the proceeds going to the Suffrage Societies, among which, we understand, Miss Florean includes the Votes for Women Fellowship, of which she is a member. This artist is also bringing out about the same time a novel and a sketch at one of the theatres, both dealing with South Africa.

TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION IN NEW YORK

American suffragists celebrated the woman suffrage victories in Arizona, Kansas, Michigan, and Oregon (some particulars of which we published last week) by a fine torchlight procession, in which it is estimated that 15,000 men and women took part. The same authority puts the number of persons who looked on at 250,000. This dense mass of spectators, says the *New York Tribune*, filled the pavements solidly from 54th Street clean down to Union Square, and surged out into the street whenever the police let them, which was seldom, for the police arrangements last night were really almost perfect. It was not in a spirit of criticism that the crowd came out—oh, no. But it was almost solemn. Almost unbroken silence reigned among the thousands who gazed, from start to finish. It was as if they were saying to themselves: "What is this force that is marching upon us?"

The account goes on:—

> Standing at 42nd Street, when the Woman Suffrage party section, by far the greater part of the parade, got under way, it looked as if an endless chain of harvest moons was winding down the avenue. Far, far up, as far as the start at 58th Street, you saw those yellow globes of light, and as far down as the eye could reach you saw them swinging. They were the yellow paper lanterns the women carried.
>
> At the head of the parade rode Miss Beatrice Forbes Robertson (Mrs. Hale), the grand marshal, on a milk white steed. Among suffragists well known in this country, as well as the United States, were Dr. Anna Shaw and Miss Meg Milholland.
>
> The oldest person in line was William Irving, eighty-five years old, who marched, he said, in the big political parades when Lincoln was elected. "And I'm proud to tramp along in the woman's cause, which is as great as the cause for which Lincoln toiled," he said.
>
> The suffrage States were represented by chariots, driven by suffragists, and women voters also represented Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Australia, and New Zealand.

◆

A CORRECTION

A correspondent writes to point out that in the map of the United States which we published last week, the small portion of Michigan which lies above Wisconsin was shaded, instead of being white. The shaded portions indicated partial suffrage, whereas Michigan has now, of course, won full woman suffrage, and both portions should be white.

◆

A NEW JOURNAL FOR WOMEN

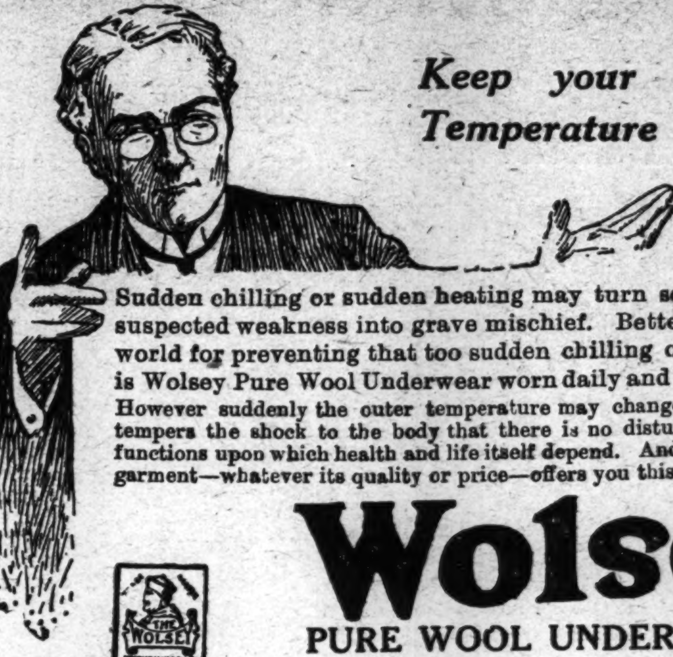
We have received the first number of a new French, or, rather, French-Swiss monthly paper (*Le Mouvement Feministe*), devoted to the cause of women. In Switzerland the cause gains ground rapidly; the German-Swiss cantons have already excellent women's papers, but this new organ is to supply the needs of the French-speaking population. *Le Mouvement Feministe* declares itself suffragist, "women's suffrage being for us *chose primordiale*," it says. But it aims also at giving news of all branches of art, literature, and life, and welcomes writers from other countries. In Geneva, where monthly meetings, open to all interested in suffrage questions, take place at the offices of the "Union des Femmes," good propaganda work appears to be carried on, and this journal remarks that people are beginning to understand that "feminisme" is not the ugly thing called by the ugly word, "anti-hominisme," but that it is a movement aiming at the harmonious working together of both sexes.

◆

PUTTING BACK THE CLOCK IN BUDAPEST

The men of Hungary have been proving by militant action that, like other strugglers for human freedom, they are quite unfit to have it. At a recent suffrage meeting at Budapest, the assembled men resented the presence of a police officer who was there to take note of the proceedings. A riot followed, and the police drew their swords. There was great disorder, and the people were driven into the street, where hand-to-hand fighting took place, and many shots were fired. Eleven policemen and thirteen demonstrators were more or less severely injured, according to Reuter, and eighty-six arrests were made.

No doubt, all sympathy with the cause of freedom in Hungary has now been alienated, and no Government can be expected to confer the suffrage upon these hooligans. Of course, they have put back the Hungarian clock of Parliamentary reform at least a hundred years. But they will have the warm sympathy of all the Liberal Anti-Suffragists in this country, Hungary being just far enough away to make it possible for a Liberal to be a Liberal without having to prove it!



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MR. DAWSON'S "JOKE"

Some weeks ago we drew attention in Votes for Women to a meeting of the Hull District Chamber of Trades, at which Councillor Dawson, Chairman of the Education Committee, was reported to have referred to the ducking-stool as a way of dealing with Suffragettes. The cudgels were taken up on our side by Mr. Ronald Dixon, who has drawn from Mr. Dawson a letter in the *Eastern Morning News* (November 20), in which he says:

> I jokingly suggested that the stocks and the pillory might be re-erected in Paragon Square, where those imprisoned would doubtless attract a greater crowd than the present orators, and incidentally there would be a boom in decayed fruit and rotten eggs. In the same mood, I said that the "ducking-stool" might be set up again at Southend as a good method for dealing with scolds, "unquiet women," and Suffragettes; then Cabinet Ministers might "pursue their avocations in peace and quietness, none daring to make them afraid."

Mr. Dawson must be told quite plainly, and, if necessary, more than once (as Mr. Ronald Dixon has evidently been telling him), that although he may think it amusing to make jokes about his countrywomen who are making stupendous and hitherto undreamed of sacrifices in the course of their struggle for political freedom, their friends are now too numerous for such jokes to pass muster any longer.

◆

By-the-bye, we hear that there is yet another proposal as to a suitable residence for the Prime Minister, and it is said to emanate from Suffragette quarters. The suggestion is that the nation should acquire for the purpose a certain Palace, situate at Sydenham, which is made entirely of glass.—**Punch.**

FATHER DAY AGAIN

Father Day, of Manchester, has been attacking the militants again. The *Manchester City News* reports that in the course of his third address on "The Feminist Movement" Father Day said that the rôle of the militant suffragist was a new rôle for woman in the drama of life. Specially invented by Satan, it ill-became her; neither God nor nature ever intended woman to act such a part, and the acceptance of it by a section of suffragists was a portentous sign of moral depravity, against which woman and society had need to be warned. . . . Woman was the ruler of the household, not the world. The movement for the political enfranchisement of women was founded on deception and ignorance, and if woman knew her own power and glory she would never consent to exchange her crown and sceptre for the dishonour and the chains of this new slavery.

We should like to ask Father Day to show us the crown and sceptre of any of the sweated women workers in the slums of London—or Manchester.

◆

Mr. Asquith may perhaps have been wise in trying to evade the Suffragists. But there is something very undignified in the Prime Minister of England slinking into a small out-of-the-way railway station, in order to escape inconvenient observation. The fact that Mr. Asquith found it desirable to adopt this course shows that there is something sadly wrong in the political situation.—**The Nottingham Guardian.**

COMING EVENTS

We are asked to announce that a reception in honour of Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence is being arranged to take place in the Wharncliffe Rooms on Tuesday, December 17. Further particulars are to be announced next week.

To-day, Friday, November 29, the matinée arranged by the Actresses' Franchise League, takes place at the Lyceum Theatre. The cast for "The First Actress," by Christopher St. John, includes Nora Lancaster (the First Actress), Henrietta Watson (Nell Gwynne), Florence Lloyd (Mrs. Barry). Evelyn Weeden (Mrs. Bracegirdle), Maud Cressall (Nance Oldfield), Gertie Millar (Peg Woffington), Julia James (Kitty Clive), Saba Raleigh (Mrs. Siddons), Gladys Cooper (Mrs. Abington), Lilian Braithwaite (Mrs. Jordan), Evelyn D'Alroy (Madame Vestris), Gertrude Kingston (the Actress of To-day); Mr. Ben Webster (Sir Charles Ledley), Mr. Tom Heslewood (Lord Hatton), and Mr. James Dale (Griffen). Miss Evangeline Florence will sing, and Mr. Tom Clare will give one of his amusing sketches at the piano. The directors of the Empire Theatre have generously consented to allow Mdlle. Lydia Kyasht to dance. Miss Clare Greet and Miss Marianne Caldwell will appear in a duologue, entitled, "A Chat with Mrs. Chicky," by Evelyn Glover, and a new original prologue, written by Miss Cicely Hamilton, is to be spoken by Miss Janette Steer and Miss Athene Seyler. The powerful little play, "Mr. Wilkinson's Widow," to be produced by Mr. Ben Webster, will include in its cast Miss Blanche Stanley, Miss Mary Deverell, Mr. Frederick Morland, and others. In the tableau, "The Awakening of Woman," which is being arranged by Sir George Frampton, Miss Edyth Olive, Miss Agnes Brayton, Miss Anna Stannard, Miss Frances Dillon, Miss Maud Hoffman, Miss Olive Terry, and many others will appear. Tickets are on sale at the Offices of the League, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. Tel.: City 1214.

Tuesday, December 3, has been selected for several interesting events. On that date, at 3.30 p.m., the Women's Writers' Suffrage League will hold a reception at the Knightsbridge Palace Hotel, in honour of its new President, Mrs. Flora Annie Steel, at which Miss Beatrice Harraden will be hostess, and well-known writers will give brief speeches on "Why I approve of Votes for Women." Among those who have already promised to speak are Mrs. Steel, Mrs. Baillie Reynolds, Mrs. Zangwill, Mr. Richard Whiteing, Sir John Cockburn, Mr. A. G. Gardiner, Mr. Keighley Snowden, and (engagements permitting) Mr. Pethick Lawrence.

On Tuesday, December 3, at 3 o'clock, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will address a meeting for women only in Old Fellows' Hall, Forrest Road, Edinburgh. All working women and wives of working men are invited. Tea at 2.30 p.m. Mrs. McLaren will be in the chair.

On Wednesday, December 4, Mrs. Lawrence will speak in the large hall of the University, Edinburgh, at 8 p.m.

On Friday, December 6, a reception will be held at the Balmoral Hotel, Princes Street, at 3.15 p.m.

On Tuesday evening, December 3, Mr. Pethick Lawrence will speak in St. Peter's Hall, Hinton Road, Bournemouth, at 8 p.m. Mr. Laurence Housman will be in the chair.

On Friday, December 6, Mr. Pethick Lawrence will speak in the Lecture Room, Victoria Hall, Halifax, at 7.30 p.m.

We are asked to announce that on Friday, December 13, a song and violin recital by Lady Sybil Smith and Miss Mary Law will take place at 2, Campden Hill Square (by kind permission of Mrs. Brackenbury), at 3.30 p.m. The proceeds will be used to defray the expenses of the W.S.P.U. East End campaign, and to extend the work in the East End. Tickets, 5s. each, may be obtained from Lady Sybil Smith, Rolls Park, Chigwell, Essex.

A NEW WELSH SUFFRAGE SOCIETY

At a committee meeting of the Cymric Suffrage Union on Thursday, November 21, Mrs. Mansell-Moullin, Vice-President, announced her resignation from the committee and the Union, stating that although there was a large majority on the Committee, and also a majority of the members, in favour of a forward Anti-Government policy, she could not continue to work without unanimity. The Hon. Secretary, Mrs. M. E. Davies (joint founder with Mrs. Mansell-Moullin of the Union), immediately followed, whereupon the whole committee resigned, with the exception of Mrs. D. A. Thomas, President, who was not present.

Mrs. Mansell-Moullin is starting a new Union, under the name of The Forward Cymric Suffrage Union, with the motto, "O pesu n'ad gamwaith," and the Red Dragon as a badge. She has the assistance of the Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary who worked with her in the C.S.U. The new Union will oppose the present and any future Government that refuses the vote to women. It will welcome as members all Welsh men and women, their sympathisers and friends, provided they are not working for any political party. For full particulars application should be made to the Hon. Sec., Mrs. M. E. Davies, 53, Wandsworth Bridge Road, Fulham, S.W., or to the Hon. Organiser of the Forward Cymric Suffrage Union, 69, Wimpole Street, W.

◆

ANY OTHERS?

Owing to the statement that the Liberal meeting at Nottingham was the first for four years that the Premier had addressed without being interrupted by suffragettes, the secretary of the Ipswich Liberal Association writes that on January 11, 1910, Mr. Asquith addressed two public meetings at Ipswich without interruption, and that he arrived and departed from the railway station unmolested.—**The Daily Chronicle.**

◆

THE WORD "SUFFRAGETTE.

There is time, we believe, for the word "Suffragette" to get into the Oxford Dictionary. But Mr. Parkin's suggestion of a definition will not, we fear, commend itself to Dr. Murray. The suggestion, which was made at Saturday's N.U.T. meeting at Exeter, deserves, however, to be put on record:

"The time had come," Mr. Parkin urged, "when they must understand that the term 'Suffragette' did not necessarily mean 'a hooligan.' They might as well call a Parliamentary representative 'a hooligan' after the recent example of rampant hooliganism in the House of Commons."

We do not think the analogy will hold until we find the Suffragettes practising their peculiar methods upon one another. But why should the connotation of "Suffragette" be disturbed? We want a term to denote the self-immolating militant lady. "Hooligan" certainly will not do. There's no chivalry or devotion in it. Besides, it is already appropriated. "Suffragette" is just the word. It has the seal of current usage; and it is not required for the general sense of "one who supports 'Votes for Women.'" Thus, "woman suffragist" would be the genus, and "suffragette" a species of that genus. —**The Western Daily Mercury.**

◆

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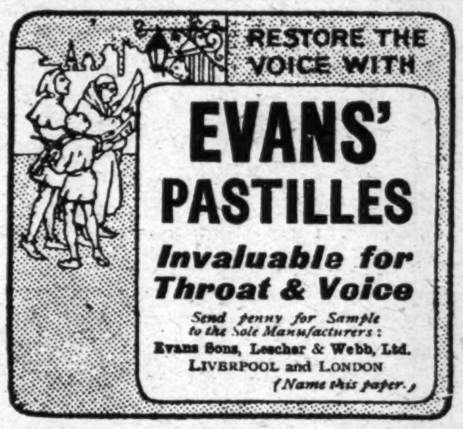

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"QUI VIVE!" Held a Meeting, Poole Quay, 22nd. London Depôt henceforth at 8, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge. Suffragists in Dorset, Somerset, and Hants, please communicate with Sec., Mrs. B. Bentinck, 78, Harley Street, W.

WOMEN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL UNION.—St. Peter's Hall, Hinton Road, Bournemouth, Tuesday, December 3, at 8 p.m. Speaker, Mr. Pethick Lawrence. Chair, Mr. Laurence Housman.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE holds regular public meetings every Wednesday afternoon. Speakers, December 4, Mr. H. Baillie Weaver and Miss Anna Munro. The chair will be taken promptly at 3.30 by Mrs. Tanner.

LECTURE ROOM, Victoria Hall, Halifax.—Friday, December 6, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. Pethick Lawrence.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.—Public Meeting, Hampstead Town Hall, Saturday, December 7, at 8 p.m. Chair, Mr. Joseph Clayton. Speakers, Miss Abadam, Miss Kathleen FitzGerald, Mrs. Walter Roch. Admission free.

WHARNCLIFFE ROOMS, Tuesday, December 17.—Reception in honour of Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence.

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